Domestic Girlfriend

3

KEI SASUGA

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3

DOME
GIRL

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CHAPTER 16: A GIRL NAMED MOMO

ヴ
VWOO⋯
THIS APARTMENT COMPLEX IS NUTS...
THERE'S EVEN A FRONT DESK.
YEAH?
YOU SURE IT'S OKAY IF I DON'T BRING ANYTHING?
?
DID YOU WANNA STOP BY A CONVENIENCE STORE?
NO, I MEAN LIKE FOR YOUR FAMILY IF THEY'RE HOME.

OH, NO WORRIES THERE.
MY MOM AND DAD ARE ALMOST NEVER HOME BECAUSE OF WORK.
WE CAN RELAX AND FOOL AROUND ALL WE WANT. ♥
カ
CLACK
チャ
COME ON IN.
IT'S HUGE!
ARE YOU COOL WITH COLA?
I WONDER HOW MUCH THE RENT IS FOR THIS PLACE.
NAH, IT'S PROBABLY NOT A RENTAL, HUH...
きょろ
GLANCE
きょろ
GLANCE

ぎ
HUG
ゅっ
ARE YOU NERVOUS?
YOU'RE BLUSHING A LITTLE.
HOW CUTE. ♥
AH HA! YOU'RE BLUSHING EVEN MORE!
HOW CAN I NOT BE EMBARRASSED?
BUT WE HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING YET!
'KAY.
WHY DON'T WE GO TO MY ROOM NOW?

ARE YOU ...
...NOT USED TO KISSING?
...
YEAH ...

THAT TIME...
...WAS MORE AN ACCIDENT THAN ANYTHING.
THIS IS FOR THE BEST.
THAT LOVE IS DEAD AND BURIED.
I HAVE TO HURRY AND ERASE THE REMNANTS OF SENSEI LEFT INSIDE OF ME.

THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANY PROBLEM WITH MOMO.
SURE, THERE ARE SOME RUMORS ABOUT HER...
...BUT SHE'S NOT FAMILY, NOR IS SHE MY TEACHER.
SO WHY NOT?
IF I JUST GO OUT WITH HER...
BRING DING
ピロリンッ
BRING DING
ピロリーンッ
!
GOT A TEXT?
MY BAD... I FORGOT TO PUT IT ON VIBRATE.
IT'S FINE. YOU CAN CHECK IT.
SORRY. REALLY...
FLICK
パチッ

From RUI

Subject NO SUBJECT

It sounds like everyone will be at work late tonight.
Is there anything you want to eat for dinner?

...
FRIEND?
OH, NAH... FAMILY.
THEY'RE ASKING WHAT I WANT FOR DINNER.
THAT'S NICE.
YOUR FAMILY EATS TOGETHER?
USUALLY, YEAH...
DOES YOURS NOT?
MMM...
NOT OFTEN.
OR I GUESS I SHOULD SAY...
NEVER.

MOM AND DAD HAVEN'T REALLY GOTTEN ALONG FOR A LONG TIME.
PLUS, THEY'RE BOTH BUSY WITH WORK, SO THEY ONLY COME HOME LIKE ONCE A WEEK.
I DO HAVE AN OLDER BROTHER, BUT HE ALREADY MOVED OUT.
SO, I USUALLY EAT BY MYSELF AT HOME.
...
OKAY,
ENOUGH ABOUT THAT.
LET'S CONTINUE. ♥

...
HEY ...
WILL YOU ...
UNDO MY BUTTONS?
I'M NOT ...
WEARING A BRA RIGHT NOW.
SLIP
シュルッ
スル
SLIP
スル...
SLIP

SWIF
...

TH-
THEY'RE NOT FROM RECENTLY OR ANYTHING.
I WAS JUST GOING THROUGH SOME STUFF A WHILE AGO.
BUT I'M TOTALLY FINE NOW.
DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU, OKAY? I MEAN IT...
AN AMOROUS NATURE ENOUGH TO GARNER RUMORS,
PARENTS WHO WON'T COME HOME,
FAMILY PHOTOS ONLY FROM WHEN SHE WAS A KID,
AND...
CREAK
ギ"
...

NAT-SUO-KUN …?
IS THERE A GROCERY STORE NEARBY?
OOPS. BEFORE THAT…
BUTTON UP.

DOMF
THIS SHOULD BE ENOUGH.
MIND IF I USE THE KITCHEN?
PANS AND OIL AND WHATNOT.
SURE ...
CHOP
ザク
CHOP
ザクッ
CHOP
ザクッ
SIZZLE
ジュワ～
…

VOILA!
YAKI-UDON?*
YEP.
THIS IS THE ONE DISH I'M CONFIDENT IN MAKING.
YUM!
WOW, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU CAN COOK!
ONLY SIMPLE THINGS, REALLY.
YOU'RE A BETTER COOK THAN I AM.
IT REALLY IS WAY DIFFERENT...
EATING WITH OTHER PEOPLE.
IT USED TO BE JUST ME AND MY DAD FOR THE LONGEST TIME,
SO I ENDED UP EATING ALONE A LOT.
IT FEELS MORE LIKE A CHORE WHEN YOU COOK AND EAT BY YOURSELF.
WITH COMPANY, NOT ONLY DOES THE FOOD TASTE BETTER, BUT EATING'S MORE FUN, TOO.

*STIR FRY USING UDON NOODLES.

...
YEAH...
SO FROM NOW ON...
...YOU DON'T HAVE TO PRETEND TO BE OKAY AROUND ME.
GIVE ME A CALL WHENEVER YOU FEEL LONELY.
LET'S EAT TOGETHER AGAIN.
THAT BEING SAID, I DON'T HAVE THAT MANY DISHES IN MY REPERTOIRE...
...
THANKS...

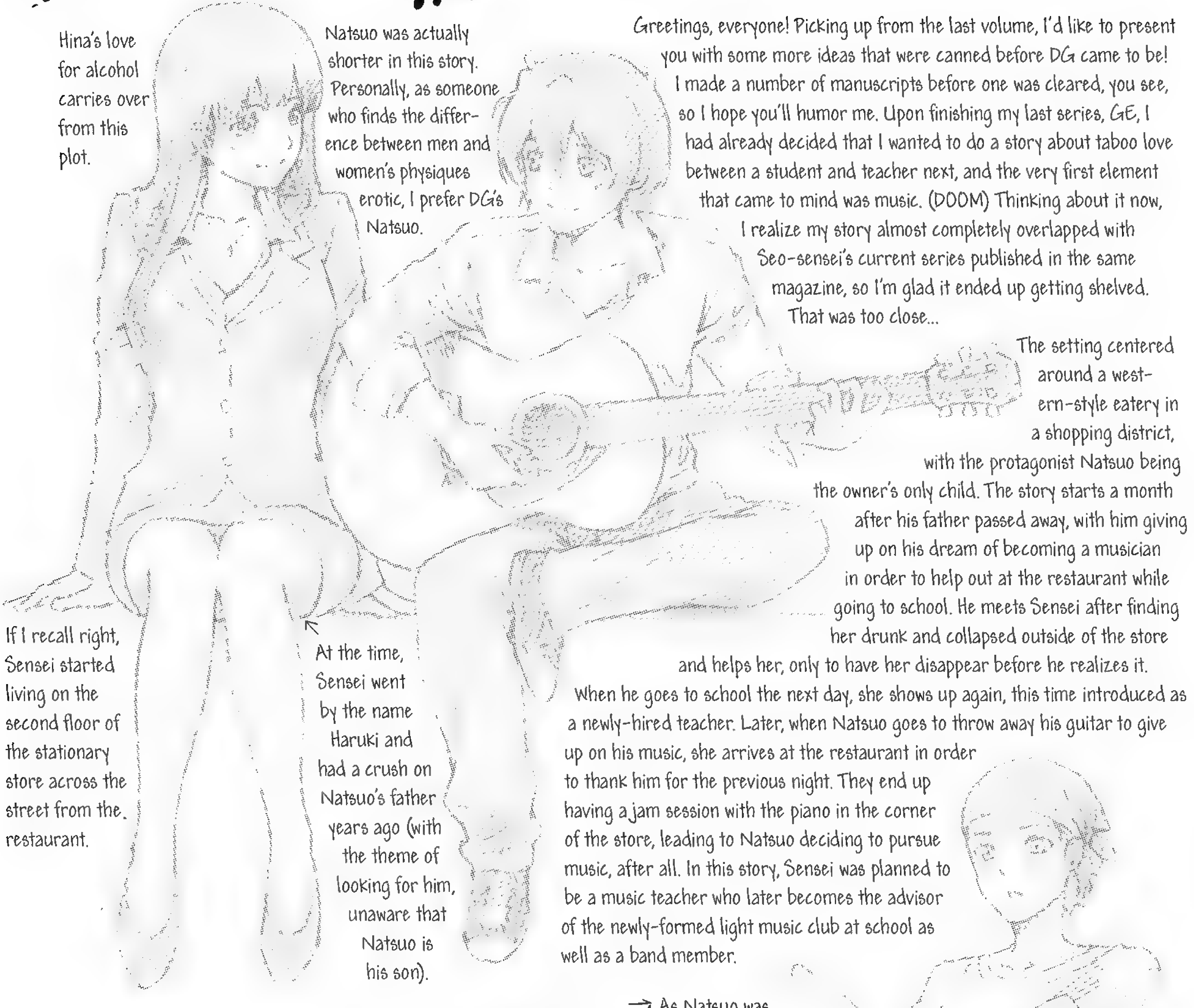
DRIP
ぼた
DRIP
ぼた
DRIP
ぼた
AW MAN... I DIDN'T MEAN TO MAKE YOU CRY OR ANYTHING...
AH HA.
SORRY.
Y'KNOW, I'VE ALWAYS KEPT MY SCARS HIDDEN UNTIL NOW...
...BUT I CAN'T COVER THEM WHEN I'M NAKED.
I'VE HAD A LOT OF GUYS GET CREEPED OUT AND DISTANCE THEMSELVES FROM ME AFTER THEY SEE THEM...
...BUT THAT'S THE FIRST TIME...
...ANYONE'S SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO ME.

THEN I GUESS THAT MEANS WE'RE–
NOT DATING.
WHY NOT?! DO YOU HATE ME NOW?!
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN...
IT'S JUST, THINKING IT OVER AGAIN...
...MAYBE IT'S BEST IF NEITHER OF US DATE SOMEONE WE'LL RELY ON RIGHT NOW.
JEEZ... WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?
AFTER YOU'RE THAT NICE TO ME?
YOU'RE SUCH A TEASE.
WELL, SETTING THAT ASIDE,
WHY DON'T WE GO BACK TO MY ROOM AFTER THIS AND–
NOT HAPPENING.

BONUS PLAN
DOMESTIC GIRLFRIEND: IN THE MAKING ②

Greetings, everyone! Picking up from the last volume, I'd like to present you with some more ideas that were canned before DG came to be! I made a number of manuscripts before one was cleared, you see, so I hope you'll humor me. Upon finishing my last series, GE, I had already decided that I wanted to do a story about taboo love between a student and teacher next, and the very first element that came to mind was music. (DOOM) Thinking about it now, I realize my story almost completely overlapped with Seo-sensei's current series published in the same magazine, so I'm glad it ended up getting shelved. That was too close...

The setting centered around a western-style eatery in a shopping district, with the protagonist Natsuo being the owner's only child. The story starts a month after his father passed away, with him giving up on his dream of becoming a musician in order to help out at the restaurant while going to school. He meets Sensei after finding her drunk and collapsed outside of the store and helps her, only to have her disappear before he realizes it. When he goes to school the next day, she shows up again, this time introduced as a newly-hired teacher. Later, when Natsuo goes to throw away his guitar to give up on his music, she arrives at the restaurant in order to thank him for the previous night. They end up having a jam session with the piano in the corner of the store, leading to Natsuo deciding to pursue music, after all. In this story, Sensei was planned to be a music teacher who later becomes the advisor of the newly-formed light music club at school as well as a band member.

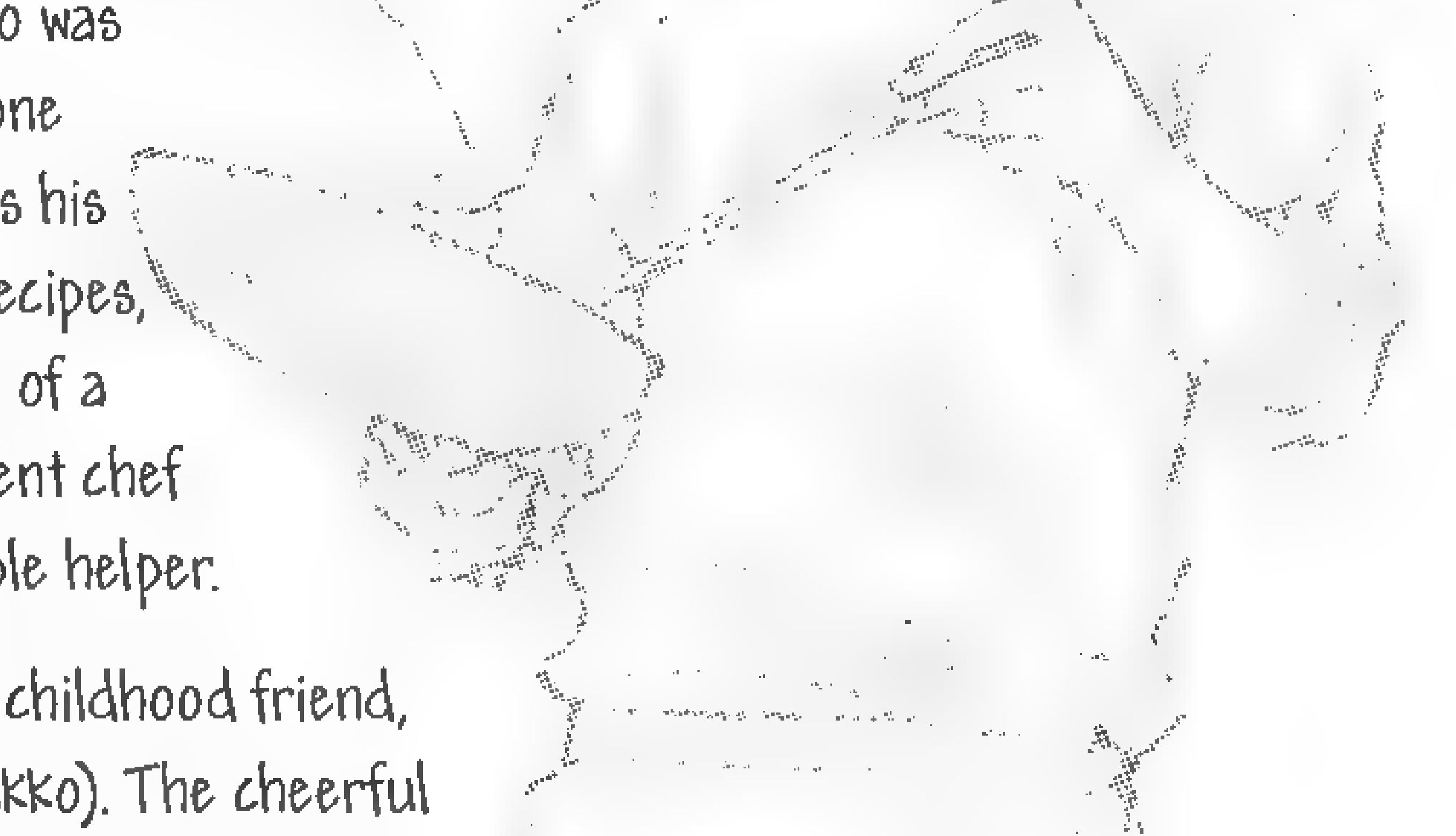


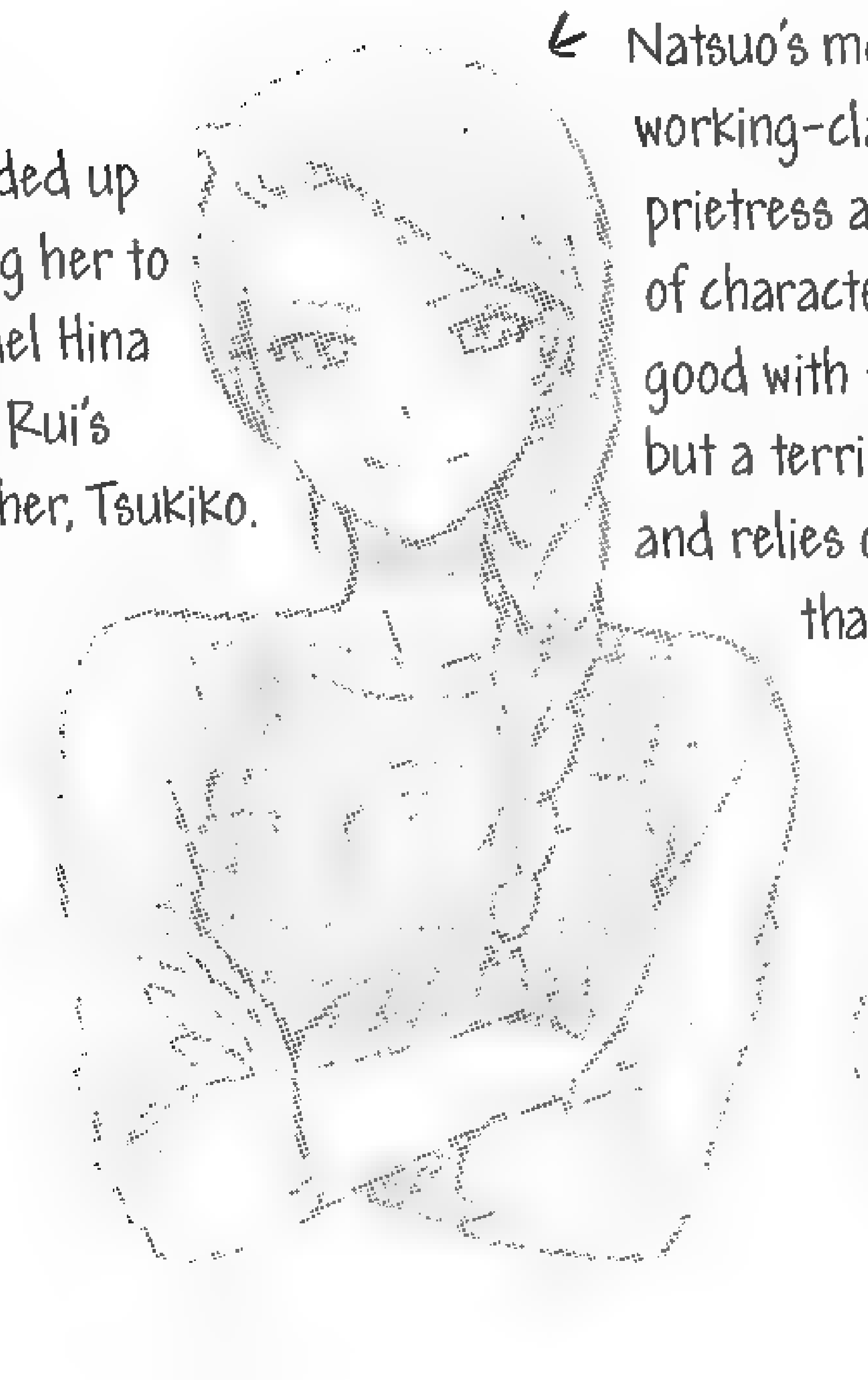
Hina's love for alcohol carries over from this plot.

Natsuo was actually shorter in this story. Personally, as someone who finds the difference between men and women's physiques erotic, I prefer DG's Natsuo.

If I recall right, Sensei started living on the second floor of the stationary store across the street from the restaurant.

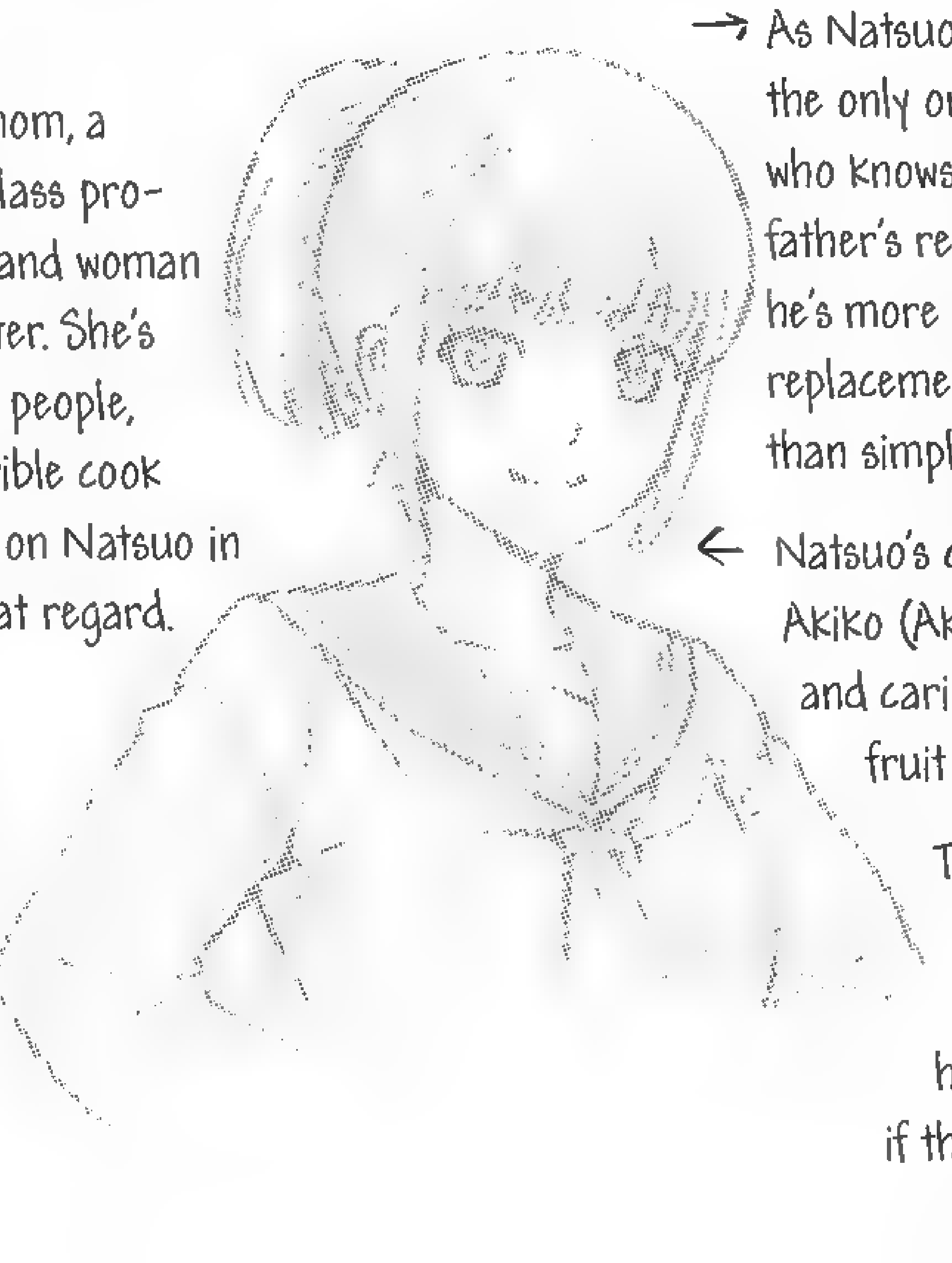
↖ At the time, Sensei went by the name Haruki and had a crush on Natsuo's father years ago (with the theme of looking for him, unaware that Natsuo is his son).





I ended up using her to model Hina and Rui's mother, Tsukiko.

← Natsuo's mom, a working-class proprietress and woman of character. She's good with people, but a terrible cook and relies on Natsuo in that regard.



→ As Natsuo was the only one who knows his father's recipes, he's more of a replacement chef than simple helper.

← Natsuo's childhood friend, Akiko (Akko). The cheerful and caring daughter of a fruit shop. Loves Natsuo.

The reason this draft was canned was because after writing it up I realized it was too "normal" (lol). Or should I say it was lacking originality... I guess going the route of DG might have suited me better (^^;). Well, then. See you again if the pages allow!

CHAPTER 17: CLUB ACTIVITIES

MOMO KASHIWABARA

NO SUBJECT

Thanks for the yakiudon last night! ✧😆♡
It was really tasty.♡
I'll make dinner next time, so come over again sometime!

UGH... I FEEL SLUG-GISH.
DOESN'T IT SEEM HOT TODAY?
AREN'T WE COMING OUT OF THE RAINY SEASON?
...
HEY, YUYA.
YOU SLEPT WITH MOMO KASHIWABARA, RIGHT?
HUH? YEAH.

DID YOU NOTICE?
THAT, I MEAN.
"THAT?"
OHH!
YOU MEAN THE MOLE UNDER HER FUN BAGS?
YOU CAN'T SEE IT UNLESS YOU LIFT 'EM UP.
UHH... Y'KNOW,
NEVER MIND.
HE WAS PROBABLY ONLY LOOKING AT HER BOOBS.
THIS MAMMARIES MARTIAN...
OH? WHAT'S THIS? DID YOU GO A ROUND WITH HER, TOO?!
ARE WE BROS NOW?
NO, I DIDN'T!
TELL ME WHEN YOU DO, 'AIGHT?
I WONDER IF SHE WAS WAITING AT HOME ALL ALONE...
...WHEN I DIDN'T CONTACT HER OVER LINE, TOO.

HEY,
CAN YOU USE LINE ON A FLIP PHONE, TOO?
UHH…
I'M PRETTY SURE YOU CAN.
WANT ME TO SHOW YOU HOW TO USE IT?
I'D APPRECIATE IT.
TAK カッ
TAK カッ
TAK カッ
THIRD
THIRD PERIOD - MODERN JAPANESE
SELF-STUDY
SELF-STUDY AGAIN FOR MODERN JAPANESE?
IT FEELS LIKE ONE OUT OF FIVE CLASSES IS SELF-STUDY.
ARE ARE GONNA COVER EVERYTHING AT THIS RATE?
NICE! ♪
…
YOU'RE THE MODERN JAPANESE TEACHER'S ASSISTANT, KAZU?
NAH.
I JUST RAN INTO KIRIYA ON THE WAY BACK FROM THE TOILET.

YOU THERE. YOU'RE IN CLASS 5, AREN'T YOU?
SHING
キ
MIGHT I ASK YOU TO DO SOMETHING FOR ME?
S'WHAT HE SAID.
ぶはっ
PFF HAH
THAT'S SPOT ON!
'AIGHT, THEN! WHY DON'T WE DUCK OUT AND HIT A CONVENIENCE STORE OR SOMETHIN'?
I'M CRAVING ICE CREAM.
SOUNDS GOOD TO ME!
I'M BROKE, SO I'LL PASS THIS TIME.
RUNNING INTO THE NIGHT
YOU HASUKAWA
BUNGEIKATO
I SHOULD START WRITING A NEW STORY...
...TO HELP ME SWITCH TRACKS.
NEXT TIME...
...I'LL GO WITH SOMETHING THAT ISN'T ROMANCE.

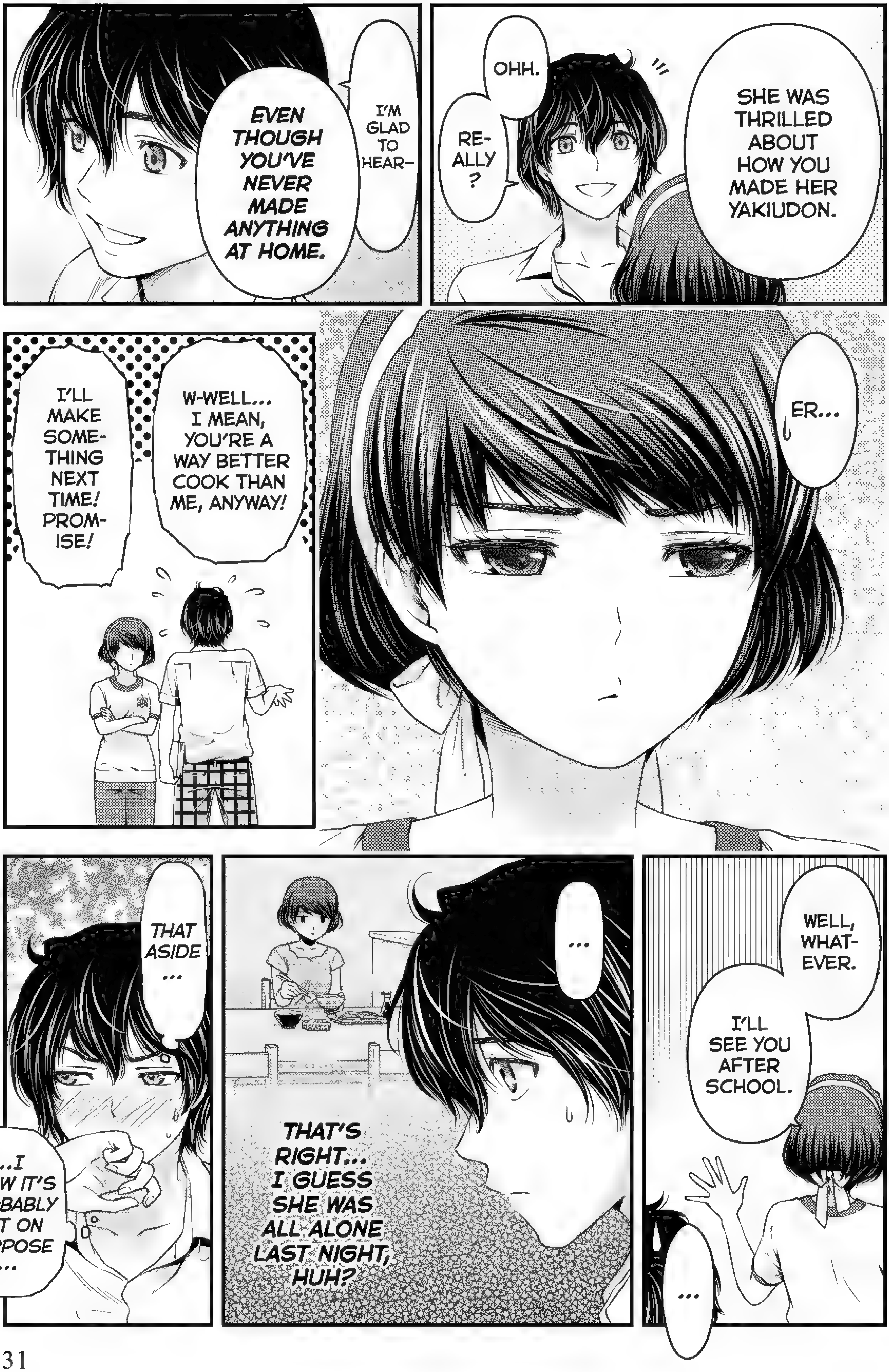
UH-OH.
I'VE BEEN DISCOVERED.

K-KIRIYA-SENSEI?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP HERE?!
CELEBRATING LIFE'S FREEDOMS.
YOU'RE... FUJII-KUN FROM CLASS 5, RIGHT?
WHAT MIGHT *YOU* BE DOING UP HERE?
I BELIEVE I ANNOUNCED THIS PERIOD WAS SELF-STUDY.
ERGH...
BUNGEIKATO
SNUFF
PARDON ME.
THUD
IT SEEMS YOU WERE STUDYING, AFTER ALL.
...HUH?
THAT'S A NICE BOOK YOU HAVE THERE.
DO YOU LIKE LITERATURE?

OH.
UHH...
I WOULDN'T GO SO FAR AS TO SAY LITERATURE,
BUT I LIKE NOVELS...
IT HAS PIECES FROM AUTHORS I LIKE.
WHAT AUTHORS DO YOU LIKE?
HUH?
UM...
WELL, FROM IN HERE,
MINATO SHUKAWA, NATSUO KIRINO,
YOU HASUKAWA...
...
YOU HAVE GOOD TASTE.
I THINK...
...YOU AND I WOULD GET ALONG WELL.

YOU HAVE GOOD EYES.
IN THIS AGE OF RAMPANT ALITERACY,
THE FACT THAT YOUNGSTERS SUCH AS YOURSELF EXIST...
...MAKES ME HAPPY AS A JAPANESE LANGUAGE TEACHER.
LIFE'S GREATEST REWARD...
...IS OBTAINED THROUGH INTELLECTUAL PURSUITS,
AS THEY SAY.
PLEASE CONTINUE TO EXPERIENCE GOOD LITERATURE.

AH.
GOOD TIMING. I WAS ABOUT TO TEXT YOU.
HM?
I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK.
DON'T TELL ME IT'S, "HAVE SEX WITH ME," AGAIN ...
I'VE GOTTEN PRETTY USED TO THIS SCHOOL ...
...SO I WAS THINKING ABOUT JOINING A CLUB SOON.
ALSO ...
WOULD YOU COME WITH ME TO CHECK OUT SOME CLUBS?
MY FRIENDS ARE BUSY AFTER SCHOOL.
O-OHH! CLUBS! SURE!
...MOMO WAS REALLY HAPPY.


SHE WAS THRILLED ABOUT HOW YOU MADE HER YAKIUDON.
OHH.
REALLY?
I'M GLAD TO HEAR—
EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE NEVER MADE ANYTHING AT HOME.
ER...
W-WELL... I MEAN, YOU'RE A WAY BETTER COOK THAN ME, ANYWAY!
I'LL MAKE SOMETHING NEXT TIME! PROMISE!
WELL, WHATEVER.
I'LL SEE YOU AFTER SCHOOL.
...
...
THAT'S RIGHT... I GUESS SHE WAS ALL ALONE LAST NIGHT, HUH?
THAT ASIDE...
...I KNOW IT'S PROBABLY NOT ON PURPOSE...

...BUT DON'T LOOK SO OBVIOUSLY JEALOUS, DUMMY!
YOU DOING ANYTHING AFTER THIS, NATSUO?
HMM.
WE DID KARAOKE THE OTHER DAY...
RU...TACHIBANA ASKED ME TO CHECK OUT SOME CLUBS WITH HER.
FOR REAL? SOUNDS FUN TO ME!
WE'RE JUST GOING AROUND LOOKING AT CLUBS, Y'KNOW.
CLUBS, RIGHT?
GIRLS' CLUBS.

...
YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF GROWTH ON YOU ...
AH HA HA
THAT'S HARSH.
WE'RE FREE, SO WE THOUGHT WE'D TOUR AROUND WITH YOU.
THAT'S FINE, I GUESS ...
ALL RIGHT, BETWEEN SPORTS AND CULTURE CLUBS, WHICH–
SPORTS!

IZUNO
PHEW...
WHAT A SUPERB VIEW.
THAT SHOULD DO IT FOR SPORTS CLUBS.
NEXT IS CULTURE.
WHICH BUILDING ARE THE CLUBROOMS IN?
THINK I'LL USE SOMETHING CLUB-RELATED TONIGHT.
SUCH FIRE.
MAYBE I'LL MAKE MY GIRLFRIEND WEAR A SCHOOL SWIMSUIT.

…
I'LL APOLOGIZE AS THEIR FRIEND…
…BUT LET ME SAY THAT MOST GUYS ARE LIKE THAT. THEY'RE JUST TOO OPEN ABOUT IT!
I KIND OF FIGURED.
…
THAT IN ITSELF IS SAD…
LET'S SEE. FOR CULTURE CLUBS…
THERE'S THE BRASS CLUB, ART CLUB, LITERATURE CLUB…
HUH?
OUR SCHOOL HAD A LITERATURE CLUB?
SLIDE
カラ
ラ
EXCUSE UUUS.

NO ONE'S HERE.
I'M PRETTY SURE THE BOARD SAID THIS ARCHIVE WAS THE CLUBROOM.
BUT, MAN, THERE SURE ARE A TON OF BOOKS.
THE SHELVES ARE PACKED.
!
AMILY MEETING SATOSHI SUNAGAWA
TADAKAZU IUE
TADAKAZU IUE
KINGDOM OF WINGS AKECHI NAKAJIMA
PERSON YONDER YOU HASUKAWA
BEFORE DAWN YOU HASUKAWA
REMINISCENCE YOU HASUKAWA
THE CRUCIFIED INFANT YOU HASUKAWA
TSURUGIZAWA KENJI MINAKAWA
ICEBERG OF LIES SATOSHI MIZUSHIMA
MERCHANT OF DEATH SATOSHI MIZUSHIMA
THERE ARE BOOKS BY YOU HASUKAWA!
WOW.
ONES I'VE NEVER SEEN, TOO...
A LOT OF HIS EARLIER WORKS ARE HERE.
...
I WONDER IF IT'S OKAY IF I BORROW THIS.
HUH?
WITHOUT PERMISSION?
IT SHOULD BE FINE IF I BRING IT BACK SOON, RIGHT?!
REMINISCENCE
WELL, I GUESS...
I WANT TO READ IT, TOO.

SLIDE
カラ…
I GUESS…
I'M IN THE CLEAR?
TWITCH
ビク
WAIT.
…!
SENSEI…
?
AH…!
LEAN
あ…

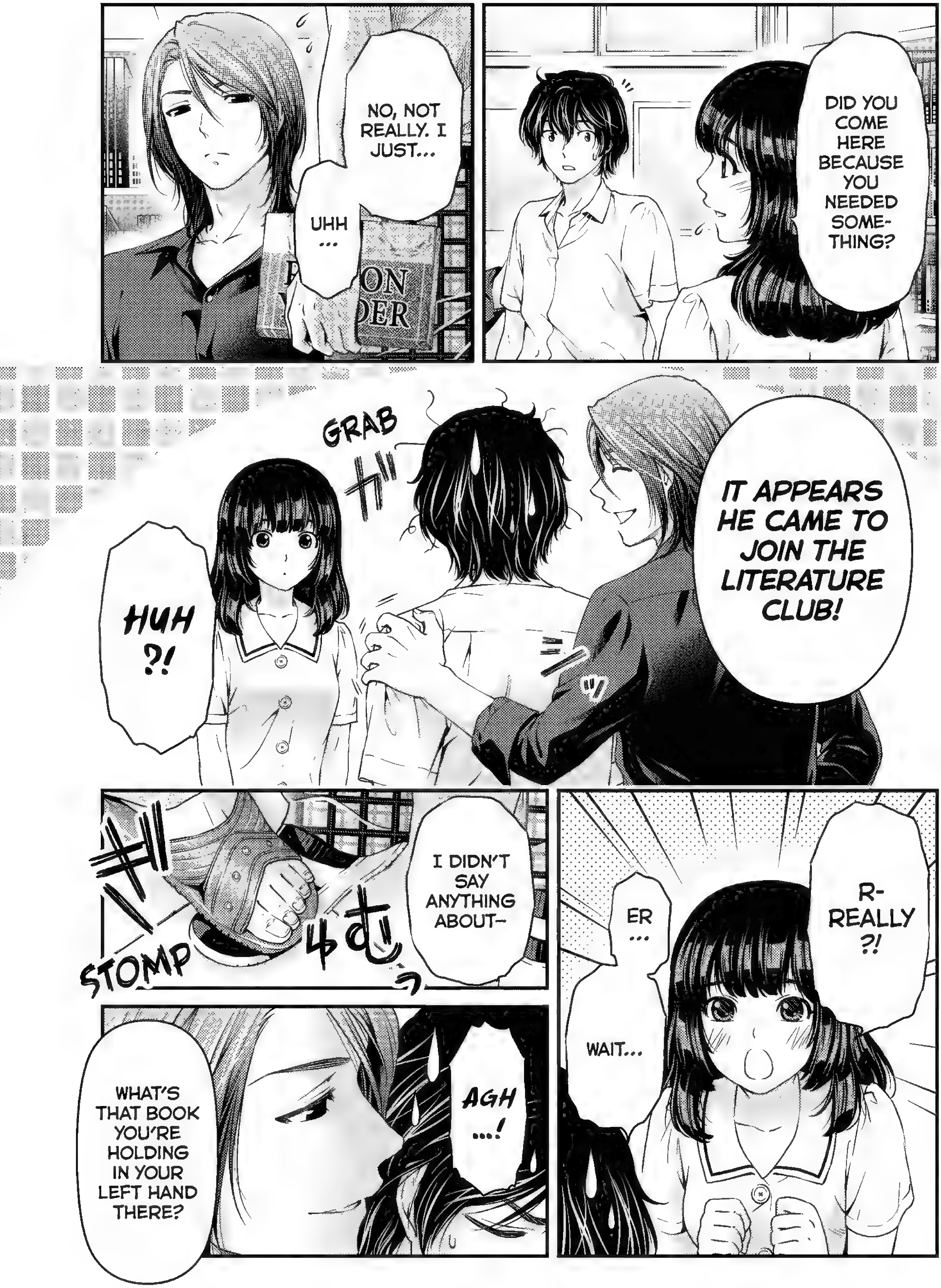
KIRIYA-SENSEI ?!
FWIP

CHAPTER 18: FORCED?

そ
…お
TIP
SNEAK
そろ…
SNEAK
そーろ…
AH!
TWITCH
ビ!
I GOT IT!

?
?
BUMP
!
PLAP
PLAP
HUH?
YOU'RE…
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
S-SORRY FOR COMING IN WITHOUT PERMISSION.

UM…
HM?
WHAT… WERE YOU TWO DOING JUST NOW?
OH…
KIRIYA-SENSEI HAD AN EYELASH THAT LOOKED LIKE IT WAS ABOUT TO GET STUCK IN HIS EYE, SO I PLUCKED IT FOR HIM.
WAIT.
HOLD STILL, PLEASE.
OH,
I SEE…
YOUR FACE IS BEET RED…
FUJII-KUN.
DID YOU THINK…
A TEACHER AND STUDENT WERE DOING SOMETHING SCANDALOUS?
N-NO, I…
YOU'RE VERY OPEN WITH YOUR EXPRESSIONS.


DID YOU COME HERE BECAUSE YOU NEEDED SOMETHING?
NO, NOT REALLY. I JUST...
UHH...
IT APPEARS HE CAME TO JOIN THE LITERATURE CLUB!
GRAB
HUH?!
R-REALLY?!
ER...
WAIT...
I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT–
STOMP
AGH...!
WHAT'S THAT BOOK YOU'RE HOLDING IN YOUR LEFT HAND THERE?

!
UM...A RETURN.
HMM.
SO, YOU TOOK IT HOME WITHOUT ANYONE'S PERMISSION, DID YOU? THE SCHOOL'S OWN PROPERTY!
HEY, I JUST BORROWED IT...
BY THAT LOGIC, THEFT COULD ALSO BE DESCRIBED AS SIMPLY "BORROWING."
...
HE'D BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO JOIN.
SHE'S MOVED TO THE POINT OF TREMBLING.
UM...
I'M THE LITERATURE CLUB'S PRESIDENT,
MIU ASHIHARA.

IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU!
L-
LIKEWISE.
THIS IS GREAT, ASHIHARA-KUN.
NOW YOU CAN MAKE YOUR CLUB PUBLICATION.
YES!
WELL, THEN.
IN THE WAKE OF THIS DEVELOPMENT,
WHY DON'T WE USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RECRUIT MORE MEMBERS?
I WANT YOU TO MAKE FLYERS TO HAND OUT AFTER SCHOOL TODAY.
FWIP
HUH ...?
PROBLEM?
NO...
THINK YOU CAN YOU HANDLE IT, ASHIHARA-KUN?
I THINK SO, BETWEEN THE TWO OF US.
...

文芸部
LITERATURE CLUB
Fans of reading always welcome.
Budding authors, assemble!
LOOKING FOR MEMBERS!
LIT CLUB
YOU'RE A GOOD ARTIST.
EH?!
O-OH, THAT ISN'T SO. I'M NOT VERY GOOD.
WHY ARE YOU SPEAKING SO FORMALLY, ANYWAY?
YOU CAN BE MORE CASUAL.
I HAVE A HABIT OF SPEAKING FORMALLY TO PEOPLE I'M NEWLY ACQUAINTED WITH.
OH!
I MEAN, PEOPLE I'VE JUST MET...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO CORRECT YOURSELF.
HAVE YOU NOT DONE ANY RECRUITING UNTIL NOW?
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW OUR SCHOOL HAD A LITERATURE CLUB.

I HAVE, BUT NOT MUCH...
I BECAME THE ONLY ONE LEFT IN THE CLUB AFTER THE THIRD-YEARS GRADUATED IN MY FIRST YEAR...
CLUB INTRODUCTION ASSEMBLY
Join the baseball club!
...SO WHILE IT MIGHT BE CALLED A LITERATURE CLUB, IT'S NOT REALLY TREATED LIKE ONE.
THAT'S WHY I WASN'T ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CLUB INTRODUCTION ASSEMBLY.
THERE IS A FLYER ON THAT BULLETIN BOARD...
...BUT IT'S SMALL AND GETS OVER-SHADOWED BY THE OTHER CLUBS' POSTERS.
Literature Club Looking for members! 2nd Year Wing, Archive Room
NO WONDER I DIDN'T KNOW...
YOU CAME BECAUSE YOU SAW THE FLYER, RIGHT, FUJII-KUN?
TO BE HONEST, I'D GIVEN UP ON GETTING NEW MEMBERS.
SO HAVING EVEN ONE PERSON TAKE INTEREST...
...MAKES ME REALLY...
HAPPY.
...
THIS HURTS MY HEART...

HERE'S HALF.
UM... DO YOU MIND IF I TAKE THE REAR GATE?
SURE. I'LL TAKE THE FRONT.
LITERATURE CLUUUB.
LOOKING FOR MEMBERS.
LITERATURE CLUUUB.
LOOKING FOR MEM–

HEY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HANDING OUT FLYERS FOR THE LITERATURE CLUB.
I KINDA GOT WRAPPED UP IN A BIG HASSLE.
I WENT TO RETURN THAT BOOK AND GOT CAUGHT BY KIRIYA-SENSEI,
SO NOW HE'S MAKING ME HELP OUT.
ARE YOU GOING TO JOIN THE CLUB?
I DUNNO YET.
I WENT AHEAD AND SUBMITTED YOUR CLUB APPLICATION.
WHOA!
WHY THE REACTION?
DIDN'T YOU CONTRACTUALLY OBLIGE TO BECOME MY SLAVE YESTERDAY?
I DID NO SUCH THING.
WELL, NOW YOU'RE AN OFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LITERATURE CLUB.
DO YOUR BEST WITH THE RECRUITING.

YOU'D BETTER WATCH OUT, TOO.
YOU DON'T WANT HIM TO SET HIS SIGHTS ON YOU.
...
LOOKING FOR MEMBERS! PLEASE CHECK US OUT!
文芸部
LITERATURE CLUB
Fans of reading always welcome. Budding authors, assemble!
Let's enjoy books together!
LIT CLUB
LOOKING FOR MEMBERS!
AHH! THAT'S THE LAST OF 'EM.
I'M SURPRISED SO MANY PEOPLE ACTUALLY TOOK ONE.
I WONDER HOW ASHIHARA-SAN'S DOING.
TAP た
TAP たっ
OH.
STILL AT IT, I SEE.

文芸部
LITERATURE CLUB
Fans of reading always welcome.
Budding authors, assemble!
LOOKING FOR MEMBERS!
LIT CLUB
?!
HUH ...?
SHE'S BARELY HANDED OUT ANY!
WHAT HAS SHE BEEN DOING ALL THIS...
YOU CAN BARELY HEAR HER!
...
I GET IT NOW.
THINK YOU CAN HANDLE IT, ASHIHARA-KUN?
SO THAT'S WHAT HE MEANT...
SWIPE
文芸部
LITERATURE CLUB
Fans of reading always welcome.
Budding authors, assemble!
LOOKING FOR MEMBERS!
Let's enjoy books together!
LIT CLUB

I-I'M SORRY.
IT'S NOT GOING SO WELL.
I GUESS SHE HANDED OUT FIVE OR SO.
NO SWEAT.
PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO THIN OUT BACK HERE...
...SO I'LL GO HAND 'EM OUT UP FRONT REAL QUICK.
I'M SORRY. WE SPLIT THE LOAD, TOO...
I'M JUST HOPELESS...
WELL... EVERYONE HAS THEIR STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES.
PEOPLE SHOULD JUST HANDLE WHAT THEY'RE GOOD AT.
THERE'S NO REASON TO BEAT YOURSELF UP OVER IT.

THANKS…
OH, BUT IT MIGHT BE GOOD TO WATCH HOW I HAND THEM OUT.
OKAY.
HUH?! NO WAY.
DON'T TELL ME IT'S A LOVE–
Club activities are scheduled for today.
by Kiriya
…

BY THE WAY...
...HAVE YOU EVER WRITTEN A STORY BEFORE, FUJII-KUN?
Y-YES...
OH? THAT'S A SURPRISE.
WHAT GENRE?
LATELY, ROMANCE.
I SEE.
YOU USED THEMES FROM YOUR SURROUNDINGS, I TAKE IT.
WHAT OF YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE?
...!
O-OH, Y'KNOW...
AS MUCH AS ANYONE ELSE.
UNREQUITED LOVE ONLY, I SEE.
ARE YOU PSYCHIC?!
YOU'RE JUST A NATURAL AT BEING EASY TO READ.
THAT REMINDS ME. YOU'VE WRITTEN ABOUT ROMANCE, TOO, HAVEN'T YOU, ASHIHARA-KUN?

EVEN WITHOUT EXPERIENCE, IT'S POSSIBLE TO WRITE A RIVETING STORY SOLELY THROUGH WISHFUL DEPICTION...
...HOWEVER, WRITING AFTER HAVING EXPERIENCED LOVE AND ROMANCE ENHANCES A STORY'S DEPTH.
MUCH LIKE A NOVEL BACKED BY RESEARCH.
REGARDING THE CLUB'S PUBLICATION,
I DOUBT EITHER OF YOU WANT TO PUBLISH ANYTHING THAT READS CRUDELY, EITHER.
THEREFORE, AS YOUR ADVISOR, I HAVE A SUGGESTION.
I PROPOSE THAT YOU TWO...
...KISS RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW.

HOLD ON.
THAT WAS SO OUT THERE, I'M NOT SURE I GET WHAT'S GOING ON.
FOR STARTERS, KISSING DOESN'T NECESSARILY EQUAL ROMANCE, RIGHT?
...
HUH ...?
ALL RIGHT.
WHA ?!

CHAPTER 19: HEARTTHROB…?

ASHIHARA-SAN...?
HUH?
WAIT...
THIS IS WRO-
ARE YOU REALLY OKAY...
...WITH DISGRACING A GIRL LIKE THIS?

SWIF
NO ...
I CAN'T FORCE IT.
RUSTLE

RUSTLE
カサ
THAT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT.
I WON'T FORCE YOU TO OR ANYTHING.
I MERELY MEANT IT AS A SUGGESTION.
I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE NICE IF THE FEELINGS YOU EXPERIENCED IN THIS SITUATION MANIFESTED IN YOUR WRITING IN SOME WAY.
IT'S NOT LIKE I REALLY WANTED TO PEEP ON A YOUNG COUPLE'S KISS SCENE.
I'D DECK YOU IF THAT WAS THE CASE.

HOWEVER, JUDGING BY YOUR CONDUCT JUST NOW...
...I GOT A VERY GOOD IDEA OF YOUR DISPOSITION.
LET ME READ WHAT YOU'VE WRITTEN UNTIL NOW SOMETIME.
部
RATURE CLU
king for
OH!
WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE DRAWING?
A POSTER.
UNDER KIRIYA'S ORDERS...
SPECIALS

OH, RIGHT! YOU JOINED THE LITERATURE CLUB, RIGHT?
I WAS MADE TO JOIN!
FORCEFULLY.
I'M BEING TAKEN FOR A RIDE. IT SUCKS...
WHAT'S WITH THAT GUY, ANYWAY?
KIRIYA-SENSEI?
I DO AGREE THAT HE'S KIND OF AN ODDBALL,
BUT HIS TEACHING ABILITY IS PRETTY HIGH.
HE STAYS ON TOP OF HIS CURRICULUM AND PAPERWORK, TOO,
SO NONE OF THE TEACHERS CAN COMPLAIN ABOUT HIM.
LUCKY YOU, BEING THE SLAVE OF SUCH AN ADEPT MASTER.
I'M SORRY, WHO'S A SLAVE?
WHAT? A SLAVE? KIRIYA-SENSEI'S?
SOMEHOW THAT SEEMS FITTING.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
OH, DON'T BE SO PRICKLY.
HAVE SOMETHING SWEET AND HANG IN THERE.
HERE.

AHH.
ぱく NOM
YOU, TOO, RUI. AHH.
SINCE THEN, SENSEI HAS BEEN ACTING AS IF NOTHING HAPPENED.
AS THE ONE WHO ACTED WITHOUT EVEN THINKING OF THE CONSEQUENCES, THAT IN ITSELF IS A LIFESAVER.

BUT I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF SENSEI EVER FEELS AWKWARD OR CONFLICTED ABOUT IT LIKE I DO.
OR IS SHE ABLE TO COMPLETELY SWITCH TRACKS?
I WONDER IF THAT'S WHAT MAKES AN ADULT...
ear Wing Archive Ro
ng for Members
MAYBE...
...I'LL JOIN, TOO.
LIT CLUB...
HUH?
HAVE YOU WRITTEN A STORY BEFORE?
NO, I HAVEN'T...
...BUT I AM KIND OF INTERESTED.
IF I CAN'T JOIN, THEN WHATEVER.

NO, YOU'RE TOTALLY WELCOME TO.
THINGS WILL BE EASIER FOR ME IF MORE PEOPLE JOIN.
I'LL BE LESS OF A TARGET.
FWISH
"THEN, FOR THE FIRST TIME, I RESPECTED YOU. I WAS MOVED BY YOUR DECISION, ALBEIT DISCOURTEOUS IN EXPRESSION...*"
Club today. Poster submission.
...

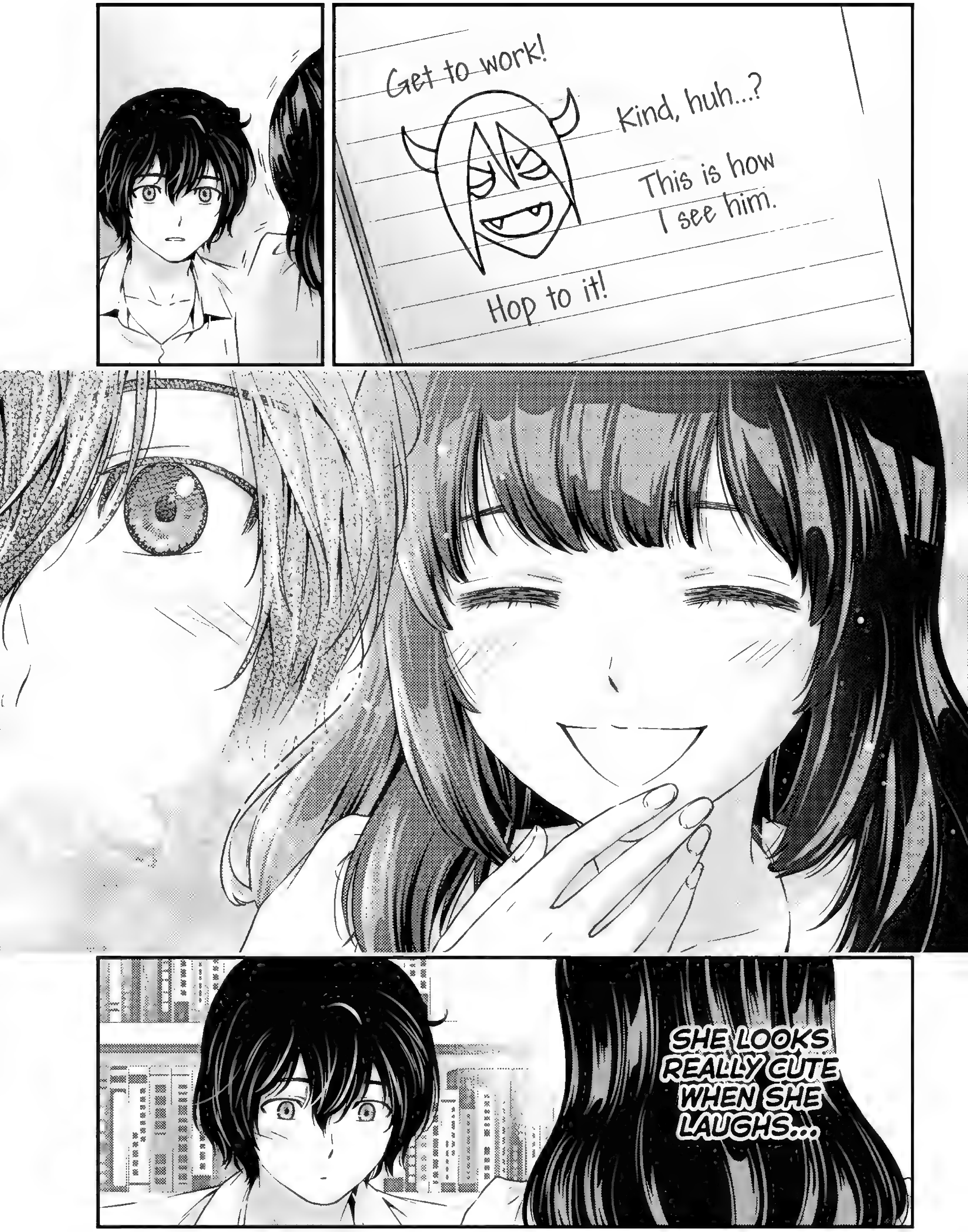
*FROM SOSEKI NATSUME'S *KOKORO.*

LIBRARY
WELL... I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL A LITTLE DOWN OVER THAT.
WHEN I THINK HOW SHE WAS *THAT* AGAINST IT...
...

TAP
コン
コン
TAP
!
UM...
WE MIGHT GET A NEW MEMBER SOON.
MY FRIEND SAID THEY WANT TO JOIN.
CLUNK
ガタ
RUSTLE
ごそ

Thank you for the tissues. The candy is a token of gratitude.
OH, IT WAS NOTHING ...
WHY WRITE IT OUT, THOUGH?
IS YOUR THROAT SORE?
Please be quiet in the library.
WHAT A GIRL SCOUT ...
I'm sorry you got wrapped up in that yesterday.

Why are you apologizing?
I thought I might have put you in a bad mood, what with how I cried and all.
No, that was definitely Kiriya's fault, right? Has he always put you on the spot like that until now?
No, not at all! He's a very knowledgeable and kind teacher. The third-year members were all girls, too, so I think he's just happy to have a boy join.


Get to work!
Kind, huh...?
This is how I see him.
Hop to it!
SHE LOOKS REALLY CUTE WHEN SHE LAUGHS...

How many stories have you written, Ashihara-san?
Three somewhat long ones and five short ones, I guess.
Whoa! Let me read them sometime.
It's kind of embarrassing, but if you let me read yours, too, then sure.
Deal. it's kind of embarrassing for me, too.
It's a promise, then.

DING DONG
キーンコーン…
OH, YEAH. I GUESS WE HAVE CLUB TODAY.
DID YOU HEAR?
作品募集
NO, I WASN'T TOLD ANYTHING…
BUT I'M USUALLY IN THE CLUBROOM AFTER SCHOOL, ANYWAY.
HUH? Y'MEAN YOU GO VOLUNTARILY…?
SLIP
ズルッ
PLAP
PLAP
バサバサッ
!
AHH, JEEZ…
YOU OKAY?
ひ
TAP
たっ…

HOOKED
S- SORRY!
ぼ
BLUSH
W-WELL, SEE YA.
YEAH! SEE YOU AFTER SCHOOL!

CHAPTER 20: MALAISE

HUH? MOMO'S WITH YOU?
YOU GUYS GOING HOME?
SHE ASKED TO GO HOME TOGETHER, BUT WHEN I TOLD HER I WAS JOINING A CLUB...
...SHE CAME WITH ME.
TA-DA!
I'M GONNA JOIN, TOO!
YOU ARE? IT'S THE LITERATURE CLUB, Y'KNOW.
YOU LIKE TO READ, MOMO?
FLATLY
NO, NOT REALLY.
HUH?
I MEAN, BOTH YOU AND RUI-RUI ARE JOINING, RIGHT?
THEN I WANNA JOIN, TOO.
I WANNA BE WITH YOU GUYS! ♥
IT'S OKAY, RIGHT?
WELL... IT'S NOT REALLY MY DECISION, ANYWAY.

SLIDE
カララ
OH…
ARE THEY THE PEOPLE YOU SAID WANTED TO JOIN?
SORRY… ONE MORE HOPPED ON BOARD.
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU. I'M THE CLUB PRESIDENT, ASHIHARA.
HELLO. I'M RUI TACHIBANA.
MOMO KASHIWABARA! ♥
!
MOMO KASHIWABARA-SAN?
YOU'RE…

YOU KNOW HER?
FROM THE RUMORS, I GUESS?
6 夏野 駿 20 佐々木
7 田村 悠 21
8 Momo Kashiwabara 22
9 安藤 仁美
10 飯田 和也
11 Miu Ashihara
12 滝 良平
13 水野
14 小林
I ONLY KNOW HER NAME FROM THE TEST SCORE RANKINGS.
I REMEMBERED IT SINCE SHE'S IN THE TOP TEN OFTEN.
I NEVER THOUGHT KASHIWABARA-SAN WOULD JOIN...
HUH?!
YOU'RE SMART, MOMO?!
TEE-HEE. ♥
THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK YOU.
SOMETIMES YOU SUDDENLY DROP DOWN THE RANKS.
WHY IS THAT?
OHH.
GRIN
THOSE WERE PROBABLY TIMES WHEN I HAD A BOYFRIEND.
I CAN NEVER CONCENTRATE WHEN I'M DATING SOMEONE.
WHEN I'M NOT, I HAVE SO MUCH FREE TIME THAT I ALWAYS END UP STUDYING.
SHE CAN DO IT IF SHE TRIES!
AND CAN'T IF SHE DOESN'T.

I'M SURPRISED THEY'RE BOTH JOINING AT ONCE.
YOU SURE ARE POPULAR, FUJII-KUN.
WHAT? NO WAY. NOT AT ALL.
I'VE NEVER EVEN HAD A GIRLFRIEND BEFORE!
WHAAAT? BUT I CONFESSED TO YOU BEFORE.
HE HE. SEE?
IT'S FINE. NO NEED TO BE MODEST.
I'M NOT BEING MODEST...
OH, YEAH!
ABOUT THE BOOK YOU LENT ME YESTERDAY, FUJII-KUN.
I'M STILL READING IT, BUT IT WAS REALLY GOOD RIGHT OUT OF THE GATE.
RIGHT?!
I REALLY LIKED THE LIBRARY BOOK YOU TOLD ME ABOUT, TOO.
I HAD NO IDEA OUR LIBRARY HAD BOOKS LIKE THIS.
...
WHAT AM I MAKING EXCUSES FOR?

WHAT KINDA BOOK?
MYSTERY... NO, I GUESS YOU'D CALL IT SUSPENSE?
MEMBERS ARE FREE TO READ ANY OF THE BOOKS IN THE CLUBROOM.
THERE ARE COMPILATIONS IN THE BACK WRITTEN BY PAST YEARS' MEMBERS.
SERIOUSLY?
I WANNA CHECK THOSE OUT!
A LOT OF THEM ARE SCHOOL DRAMA STORIES,
BUT THEY'RE FUN TO READ SINCE THEY'RE RELATABLE.

SIGN: CAFÉ & BAR / L'AMANT
WELL, THEN.
I'LL DROP BY AGAIN.
DON'T BOTHER.
OH!
HEY THERE, RUI-RUI.
IT'S RARE TO SEE YOU COME IN ON A SUNDAY.
I JUST...
...COULDN'T RELAX AT HOME FOR SOME REASON.

OH, DEAR... WILL ICED COFFEE DO?
YEAH.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN AT HOME?
NO, NOT PARTICULARLY.
NOW, WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?
IF YOU WANT TO TALK, I'M MORE THAN WILLING TO LISTEN.
Kobayashi Sanctuary
THE OWNER'S CONSULTATION OFFICE IS OPEN.
...
LATELY ...
...I FEEL LIKE SOMETHING'S OFF INSIDE OF ME.
OFF?
LIKE YOU WANT TO BE A BOY OR SOMETHING?

LIKE...THINGS ABOUT PEOPLE I NEVER CARED ABOUT BEFORE ARE CATCHING MY EYE A LOT LATELY.
OR HOW THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD ME WILL BUG ME ALL NIGHT.
IT FEELS LIKE I HAVE A CASE OF HEARTBURN THAT WON'T GO AWAY.
NOTHING LIKE THIS HAS EVER HAPPENED TO ME BEFORE.
IT ALMOST FEELS LIKE I'M NOT MYSELF.
IT'S KIND OF SCARY.
...
WHISPER ひそ...
SAY, DO YOU THINK SHE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT IT IS SHE'S FEELING?
SO...
IT WOULD SEEM.
UHH.
AHEM ゴホンッ
RUI-RUI.
YOU SEE...

THAT'S A VERY IMPORTANT ...
...CASE OF HEART-BURN.
IMPORTANT...
HEARTBURN?
BOSS, THAT'S EVEN MORE VAGUE!
HUSH.
THAT MALAISE IS SOMETHING EVERYONE EXPERIENCES.
IT'S NOTHING STRANGE, SO DON'T WORRY.
EVERYONE?
YOU, TOO, OWNER?
THAT'S RIGHT. MY YOUTH WAS A WHIRLWIND OF THAT FEELING.
THE OWNER'S YOUTH ...
HARD TO IMAGINE...
I SUPPOSE THAT WAS OVER A DECADE AGO NOW ...
...WHEN I WAS THE RIGHT HAND OF A YAKUZA* GROUP.

*YAKUZA ARE THE JAPANESE MAFIA.

WHA ?!
YA...
HUH ?!
IT WAS THE FAMILY BUSINESS.
I WAS THE ELDEST SON, AFTER ALL.
IT'S NOT LIKE I CHOSE THAT PATH.
I JUST GREW UP IN THAT ENVIRONMENT, SO HALF OF IT WAS JUST ME GOING WITH THE FLOW.
THEN WAS IT HIS FAMILY HE FELT OFF ABOUT?
MY HAIR JUMPED OUT OF ITS ROOTS...
BUT THEN I CAME TO A TURNING POINT IN MY LIFE.
A KID FROM A RIVAL GROUP CAUSED SOME TROUBLE ON OUR TURF...
...AND THEIR LIEUTENANT CAME TO APOLOGIZE FOR HIS MESS.
YOU REALLY THINK HE'S COMIN', BRO?
THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID.
DEPENDING ON HOW THEY MOVE, THIS COULD MEAN ALL OUT WAR.

HAVE YOU EVER MET THE FIFTH GENERATION HEAD, BRO?
NAH.
BUT I DO KNOW THEIR BOSS.
SURE IS TAKIN' HIS SWEET TIME...
HE'S GOT SOME OF NERVE SHOWIN' UP LATE AT THE TIME *HE* SPECIFIED!
COOL IT.
IF IT SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE TAKING US FOR A RIDE...
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO SETTLE THINGS OURSELVES.
SCREECH
HOWDY.
SORRY I'M LATE.
TRAFFIC WAS KILLER.
I'M THE KODAN GROUP'S RIGHT HAND,
JIN KATSURAGI.

IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT...
THAT'S WHAT HE MEANT?!
BEFORE I REALIZED IT, I LET HIM OFF ON THE SPOT.
AFTER THAT, I STARTED SPACING OUT ALL THE TIME.
BOSS!
IT REALLY WAS AS IF I WASN'T MYSELF.
SO... WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT?
I TOOK A GAMBLE AND CAME OUT TO MY OLD MAN AND BOY, WAS HE NOT HAPPY!
AFTER THAT, I CUT TIES WITH MY FAMILY AND HERE WE ARE.
BUT I DON'T KNOW IF WHAT YOU'RE FEELING IS THE SAME AS WHAT I DID, RUI-RUI.
THAT'S SOMETHING YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO FIGURE OUT FOR YOURSELF.

BE IT LOVE, DREAMS, OR FAMILY, WHENEVER STRONG FEELINGS ARE BORN INSIDE OF US,
THEY'RE OFTEN ACCOMPANIED BY PAIN.
BUT I STILL TREASURE MY ENCOUNTER WITH THOSE FEELINGS.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY FOLLOWING WHERE YOUR HEART WANTS TO TAKE YOU, RUI-RUI.
YOU MIGHT END UP WITH A NAME TO PIN ON WHAT IT IS YOU'RE FEELING.

KNOCK
コン
KNOCK
コン
YO.
CAN I COME IN?
SURE.
CLACK
カチャ…
HEY.
NEED SOMETHING?
…
NO.
NOT REALLY.
MIND IF I SIT?
GO FOR IT.

CREAK ギッ…
WHAT ARE YOU READING?
HUH?
OH, THIS?
MARUMI SASAKI'S *HOUSE ON THE CLIFF.* I BORROWED IT FROM THE PREZ.
HMM…
WHAT? IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, THEN OUT WITH IT! I'M LAYING IN SUSPENSE HERE!
IF YOU COME HERE LIKE YOU WANT SOMETHING THEN JUST HANG OUT, IT'S LIKE–
SUPP 24
Devils Tower
ARAPAHO TRIBES
Wyoming

...!
SQUEEZE
ぎゅーっ…
SUPER
2

CHAPTER 21: WE'RE FAMILY…

WH-
WHAT …?
…
I JUST FELT LIKE IT.
THAT REMINDS ME…
SUPER 24

THE FIRST DAY WE MET...
...WE NEVER KISSED, DID WE?
...
IT MAY SEEM LIKE KINDA TWISTED LOGIC...
...BUT I FEEL LIKE...
...KISSING IS SOMEHOW SPECIAL.

HMM.
CAN I KISS YOU NOW?
HUH?

WH-
WHAT THE HELL'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?
WE'RE FAMILY NOW!
AND YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID TO FORGET ABOUT THAT...
THEN WAS HINA-NEE SPECIAL?
!
YOU TRIED TO KISS HINA-NEE WHEN SHE WAS PASSED OUT ON THE SOFA BEFORE.
TH-
THAT WAS...

I MEAN, I'D NEVER LIVED WITH A GIRL CLOSE TO MY AGE BEFORE...
I GUESS YOU COULD CALL IT IMPULSE.
AT ANY RATE...
NO WAY. WE'RE STEP-SIBLINGS!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT PEOPLE WOULD THINK IF WE HAD THAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP?
THAT WOULD BE THE SAME...
...AS A DOUBLE SUICIDE.
...!
SENSEI...
...DID SAY THAT, BUT...
...
Y'KNOW WHAT?

SURE.
WE CAN KISS.
CREAK

CHUP
ちゅ
CHUP
ちゅ…
Devils Tower
ARAPAHO TRIBE

WELL...
GOOD NIGHT.
THUD
パタン…
HOW STUPID CAN I BE?
I MIGHT WANT TO REJECT WHAT SENSEI SAID, BUT...
THIS IS BAD.
I FEEL LIKE IF I LET MY GUARD DOWN...
PLOP
がぼっ

...I'M GONNA GET SUCKED IN BY THIS KINDA THING.
I FEEL BAD FOR DOING THAT TO RUI...
TIRED...
I DIDN'T SLEEP MUCH LAST NIGHT...
LIBRARY
YAWN
あっ
カラ SLIDE...
OH!

"WHAT ARE YOU READING?" GESTURE
Mimei Ogawa Fairy Tale Collection
I COULDN'T FIND IT BEFORE...
GARDEN OF LIGHT
Annual Literature Club Works Collection
...BUT THIS POPPED UP WHEN I LOOKED FOR IT LATER.

LAST YEAR'S COLLECTION! YOUR STORY'S IN HERE, TOO, RIGHT?
YEAH.
THE ONE I WROTE FOR THAT WAS ROMANCE.
HM?
SO YOU DON'T ALWAYS WRITE ROMANCE?
I'VE TRIED WRITING VARIOUS SHORT STORIES.
MYSTERY, SCI-FI, YOKAI-THEMED...
YOKAI?!* THAT SOUNDS INTERESTING!
WELL, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT...
I GET INFLUENCED A LOT BY WHAT I'M READING AT THE TIME, I GUESS.
Y'KNOW...
...I FEEL RELIEVED WHEN I TALK TO ASHIHARA-SAN.
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE WE BOTH LOVE BOOKS.
IS THAT SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE BY CHANCE?

*YOKAI ARE JAPANESE FOLKLORE SPIRITS AND MONSTERS.

MMM...I THINK ALL THOSE ARE AT MY HOUSE.
I'LL LOOK AROUND TO BRING IT IN NEXT TIME.
IN THAT CASE ...
...IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU...
...DO YOU MIND IF I COME OVER TODAY?
...
UM...
GASP

I, UHH ...
I JUST KINDA GOT THE URGE TO READ IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!
EVEN THOUGH YOU SAID YOU'D BRING IT IN... WHERE ARE MY MANNERS?
HA HA...
WHAT THE HELL AM I SAYING?!
OKAY.
HUH?
SURE.
THOUGH MY ROOM MIGHT BE A LITTLE MESSY...
N-
NO WORRIES!
THAT'S TOTALLY FINE!

MY HOUSE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER.
I'LL GO AHEAD AND CLEAN UP A LITTLE FIRST.
WOULD YOU MIND WAITING AT THAT CONVENIENCE STORE FOR JUST FIFTEEN MINUTES?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO MIND ME, REALLY.
ALSO, I DON'T THINK WE HAVE ANY SNACKS AT HOME SINCE MY MOM IS AT WORK...
...SO I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU COULD GRAB SOMETHING WHILE YOU'RE THERE.
I'LL PAY YOU BACK LATER.
OKAY.
I'LL BE DONE SOON.
...
IDIOT!
BONK
STOP GETTING IDEAS!

XLITOL
ELE
EAST
Majesty
AERA
ちらっ
PEEK
390
390
0.02
0.02
0.02
840
840
980
880
2,980
うすぴた
Fusion
...
YOU SERIOUSLY KEEP A CONDOM IN YOUR WALLET?
WELL, DUH. DOESN'T EVERYONE?
HELL NO!
NOT EVERYONE'S A MAN-WHORE LIKE YOU, YUYA!
HUH?
YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN.
ALL GUYS SHOULD CARRY ONE JUST IN CASE.

THAT'S JUST PROPER MALE ETIQUETTE.
NO, NO, NO, NO..
I DOUBT ASHIHARA-SAN IS...
NO, NO, NO, NO.
THERE'S NO CHANCE IN HELL SHE'S THAT KIND OF GIRL.
SHE ISN'T MOMO ...
FRRRR
FOR THE BUDDING CASANOVA.
SEX 48
DIAGRAMS INCLUDED
HOW TO MAKE GIRLS FALL FOR YOUR TRUE FEELING
TOP RANKING SEX POSITIO
!
BAM
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP?
0.02
ZERO ZERO TWO
ULTRA THIN
CONDOMS 980
BADUM
BADUM
ULTRA THIN THE WORLD'S BEST THIN CONDOM.
ZERO ZER
JAX CONDO
BADUM

白桃ピ
WHITE PEACH
20
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
DESIGNATED POLICE ROUTE
ULTRA THIN
0.02
ETIQUETTE... ETIQUETTE!
THANKS FOR WAIT-ING!
DID YOU BUY SNACKS?
UH, YEAH! JUST CHIPS AND STUFF...
OKAY. SHALL WE?

CHAPTER 22: SORRY

0.02
ULTRA THIN
0.02
I LIVE IN A COMPLEX...
...SO YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED BY HOW CRAMPED IT IS.
OH! I MOVED RECENTLY...
...BUT BEFORE THEN, I ALWAYS LIVED IN AN APARTMENT COMPLEX!
REALLY?!
IT SHOULD BE OKAY, THEN.
SO, WE'RE COMPLEX COMRADES. I KIND OF FEEL CLOSER TO YOU NOW.

KER CHAK
COME ON IN.
TH-
THANKS FOR HAVING ME...
OH, MAN. I FEEL NERVOUS IN A DIFFERENT WAY FROM WHEN I WENT TO MOMO'S PLACE.
I DOUBT ANYTHING WILL HAPPEN...
...BUT SHE DID SAY HER PARENTS WOULDN'T BE HOME, SO...

AH...
AHHH!
NEE-CHAN ACTUALLY BROUGHT A GUY HOME!
HARUMA! DON'T JUST CALL HIM A "GUY!" THAT'S RUDE!
ONEE-CHAN! IS HE YOUR BOYFRIEND?
HEY, HEY! HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN DATING?
HE'S NOT MY BOYFRIEND!
I'M SORRY YOU HAVE TO DEAL WITH THIS AFTER JUST WALKING THROUGH THE DOOR.
IT'S COOL.
MY SISTER IS VERY INEXPERIENCED...
...BUT PLEASE TAKE CARE OF HER FOR THE YEARS TO COME.
BOW
DON'T GREET HIM LIKE WE'RE GETTING MARRIED!

JEEZ...
SORRY, AGAIN...
THIS IS MY LITTLE BROTHER, HARUMA, WHO'S A MIDDLE SCHOOL FIRST-YEAR.
SUP!
AND MY SISTER, MIYA, WHO'S IN SECOND GRADE.
SUP!
NICE TO MEET YOU. I'M NATSUO FUJII.
OKAY.
LET'S GO TO MY ROOM, FUJII-KUN.
I'M GOING, TOO!
NO!
THEY CAN'T DO ANYTHING IF WE'RE IN THE WAY, RIGHT?
QUIT BEING WEIRDLY THOUGHTFUL!
THESE ARE THE MYSTERY AND YOKAI SHORT STORIES.

WOW.
YOU TYPED THEM OUT?
UH-HUH. I TYPICALLY ONLY WRITE ON MY LAPTOP, ANYWAY.
MINE'S ALL HANDWRITTEN, SO I FEEL EVEN MORE EMBARRASSED SHOWING YOU NOW...
YOUR HANDWRITING'S EASY TO READ, FUJII-KUN.
SO ...
...CAN YOU GUYS STOP SPYING ON US SO OPENLY?
SLIDE
ガラッ
TCH ...
SEE? WE GOT CAUGHT!
I'M MORE SURPRISED YOU GUYS THOUGHT YOU WERE HIDING...

CAN YOU BLAME US FOR BEING CURIOUS? THIS IS A FIRST, AFTER ALL.
WE'RE IN PUBERTY, Y'KNOW.
Y'KNOW!
FINE. DO WHAT YOU WANT.
WE'RE ONLY GOING TO TALK ABOUT NOVELS, ANYWAY.
HEY, HEY. NATSUO-SHI.
DO YOU HAVE A GIRLFRIEND RIGHT NOW?
HUH?
N-
NO...
DO YOU WRITE STORIES, TOO?
UH-HUH. NOT AS MUCH AS YOUR SISTER, THOUGH.
EROTIC NOVELS?!
'FRAID NOT...
MAN...
I TRIED ASKING NEE-CHAN TO WRITE SOMETHING SEXY...
...BUT SHE WON'T WRITE ANYTHING SINCE SHE HAS NO EXPERIENCE.

WOULD YOU GIVE IT A REST, HARUMA?
IF YOU'RE JUST GOING TO TALK ABOUT THAT, THEN GO AWAY.
YEAH, YEAH... SHOWWY ...
BUT EVEN THOUGH ONEE-CHAN'S NEVER BEEN...
...SHE WROTE A STORY ABOUT THE EDO PERIOD BEFORE.
WHAT? PERIOD PIECES, TOO?! I WANNA SEE!
TH-THAT ONE'S PRETTY OLD...
SO? WHY NOT SHOW HIM?
THAT'S WHAT HE CAME ALL THE WAY HERE FOR, RIGHT?
...
...GIVE ME A MINUTE.

DID I PRESSURE HER?
HMM. WHERE DID I PUT IT AGAIN...?
I THINK IT WAS AROUND HERE...
...!
UH-OH. THAT'S NO GOOD, NATSUO-SHI.
SWIPE
MINORS SHOULDN'T BE SMOKING CIGARETTES.
WHAT A DELINQUENT...
!
HM?
0.02

WAIT.
THESE ARE...
0.02
UWAHHH!
NATSUO-SHI BROUGHT CONDOMS WITH HIM!
HUH?
NO!
IT'S NOT WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE!
HOW SO? THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO USE THESE!
ドタ PIT
HEY!
KNOCK IT OFF! SERIOUSLY!
ドタ PIT
NEE-CHAN MIGHT NOT HAVE HAD THAT IN MIND, BUT SOMEONE SURE DID!
バタ PAT
ドタ PAT
LOOK! HE CAME PREPARED!
!

KNOCK IT OFF AL-READY!
SNATCH
PUSH
WHOA!
BA THUD
KYAH!
OW...
!!!
EEEK!
SWISH
S-S-S-SORRY!

!
HEY, HARUMA! OPEN THE DOOR!
S-SOMETHING SOFT BRUSHED MY NOSE ...
YOU WON'T GET ANYWHERE UNLESS I DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS SINCE YOU'RE A SUPER LATE-BLOOMER, NEE-CHAN.
NATSUO-SHI SEEMS TO BE UP TO IT.
WE'LL JUST EXCUSE OURSELVES FOR A WHILE.
LET'S GO, MIYA.
'KAY!
WHA?!
...
WAIT! I CAN EXPLAIN!
I ONLY HAD THEM BECAUSE MY FRIEND SAID GUYS SHOULD ALWAYS CARRY ONE, SO...
...
SORRY...

!
I'VE NEVER REALLY INTERACTED WITH BOYS MY AGE...
...SO I HAD NO IDEA.
BUT...
...I MIGHT BE AT FAULT, TOO.
I FEEL LIKE I SHOULD APOLOGIZE IF...
...I GAVE YOU THE WRONG IDEA.
NO!
THAT'S NOT...
YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG, ASHIHARA-SAN.
THERE'S NO REASON FOR YOU TO APOLOGIZE...
0.02
0.02

I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD.
I AM...
OKAY. I SHOULD HEAD BACK NOW.
S-SURE...
THANKS.
UMM...

SOR-RY...
...FOR TODAY.
...!
SEE YOU AT CLUB...
TAP TAP たたっ
GLOOP どろっ

I'M HOME ...
ZSHH
ズズ…
HEY THERE.
YOU'RE SURE HOME LATE, MR. MEANDER.
...
HUH?
WHAT'S GOT YOU SO DOWN?
むくり
STAND
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
NO,
NOT REALLY.
I JUST ...

...REALIZED HOW MUCH OF A LOW-LIFE...
...I REALLY AM.
...
OH ...
WELL,
I MIGHT NOT BE THE BEST PERSON TO SAY THIS...
ぽんっ
PAT
...BUT LIFE THROWS A LOT AT YOU.
WHEN YOU'RE DEPRESSED, I THINK IT MIGHT BE EASIER TO MOPE AROUND TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT.
THAT WAY YOU'LL FEEL MORE REFRESHED WHEN YOU PICK YOURSELF UP AGAIN.
'KAY?
THERE, THERE.
...'KAY ...

どさっ
DOMF
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
I WAS BEING TOTALLY LIGHT-MINDED ABOUT EVERYTHING.
JOINING THE LITERATURE CLUB IS A GREAT CHANCE FOR ME TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT WRITING.
FROM NOW ON, I'M GOING TO BE MORE EARNEST...
...AND TACKLE THINGS WITHOUT LOSING MY COMPOSURE!
キャーーっ!!!
KYAHHH!
いやーっ!!
EEEEK!
!
SENSEI?!
WHAT'S WRONG?!
HELP MEEE!
BAM!!

C-COCKROACH!
THERE'S A COCKROACH IN THE BATHROOM!
KILL IT FOR ME, NASUO-KUN! PLEEEASE!
...!
...!
WHAT A DAY!

DOME X GIRL

CHAPTER 23: SENSEI…

SLIDE
ガラッ
ARCHIVE
...

...
U- UM...
THANKS FOR LENDING ME THE NOVELS YESTERDAY.
OH... YOU'RE WELCOME...
UHH... THEY WERE REALLY GOOD READS!
I DIDN'T SEE THE TWIST COMING IN THE MYSTERY AT ALL,
AND THE EMOTIONAL NATURE OF THE YOKAI PIECE REALLY GRABBED ME...
...
THANKS...

SLIDE
ガラッ
...
A-
AWK-WARD...
OH!
FOUND HIM!
SO, THIS IS WHERE YOU WERE.
WE WENT TO YOUR CLASS, BUT YOU WERE ALREADY GONE.
WERE YOU TRYING TO GET SOME ALONE TIME WITH THE PREZ?
WHA?!
NO!
STARE
じっ
DON'T GIVE ME THAT LOOK!

SEEMS FISHY.
F-FORGET ABOUT THAT...
...DON'T YOU THINK WE SHOULD GET TO WORK ON THE PUBLICATION SOON?
THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME AFTER SUMMER BREAK ENDS UNTIL THE CULTURE FESTIVAL.
PUBLICATION?
YEAH. IT'S A COMPILATION OF STORIES WRITTEN BY THE CLUB MEMBERS TO BE RELEASED AT THE CULTURE FESTIVAL.
IF WE'RE GOING TO DO IT, THEN I WANT TO MAKE IT A GOOD BOOK THAT WILL GET PEOPLE INTERESTED IN THE LITERATURE CLUB.
SO I WAS THINKING WE SHOULD GET STARTED EARLY.
AGREED!
LET'S HAVE A TRAINING CAMP DURING SUMMER BREAK, THEN!
TRAINING CAMP?
WE'RE NOT A SPORTS CLUB OR ANYTHING. I'M NOT SURE THERE'S ANY POINT TO GETTING TOGETHER TO WRITE...
ガラッ
SLIDE

OH?
EVERYONE'S HERE.
TO COME HERE OF YOUR OWN ACCORD, YOU'RE STARTING TO ACT LIKE REAL CLUB MEMBERS.
WE WERE TALKING ABOUT THE PUBLICATION.
I SEE.
LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU'VE WORKED OUT THE DETAILS.
THERE IS THE BUDGET TO CONSIDER, AS WELL.
WHAT GOOD NEWS, ASHIHARA-KUN. IT SEEMS YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PUT OUT A BOOK THIS YEAR AS WELL, AFTER ALL.
AS PRESIDENT, I HOPE YOU'LL KEEP EVERYONE IN ORDER.
...
YES ...
I'LL DO MY BEST ...

YOU SEEM DOWN, ASHIHARA-KUN.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
...!
NO... NOTHING...
I HIGHLY DOUBT THAT.
YOU WERE SO EXCITED ABOUT PUBLISHING A BOOK.
IF THERE'S ANYTHING TROUBLING YOU, THEN PLEASE, LET ME KNOW.
COME NOW, DON'T BE SHY.
...
R-REALLY! IT'S NOTHING...
U- UM...!

I-IT'S MY FAULT, REALLY.
I WAS BAD MOUTHING YOU EARLIER, KIRIYA-SENSEI.
ASHIHARA-SAN GOT MAD AND TOLD ME I WAS WRONG.
THAT'S WHY SHE DOESN'T WANT TO TELL YOU.
SNATCH
OHH?
YOU COME ALL THE WAY TO THE CLUBROOM TO BAD MOUTH YOUR OWN ADVISOR?
YOU HAVE SOME GUTS THERE, NATSUO FUJII-KUN.
TH-THOWWY.
SORRY?
I BELIEVE YOU MEAN, "MY APOLOGIES, MASTER."
NY APOLOTHIES, MATHTER...
GOOD.
BY THE WAY,
I ADMIRE YOUR INITIATIVE IN PRODUCING THE BOOK. BUT MIGHT I REMIND YOU...

...TERM FINALS ARE COMING UP.
THAT'S RIGHT!
THE SCOPE OF THIS TERM'S TESTS ARE BROAD ALL AROUND.
HEH
CHANGE OF PLANS! WE'LL HAVE A STUDY SESSION TODAY!
WHAT SHOULD WE START WITH?
MATH!
FLAP
FWIP
TRY NOT TO IMPEDE YOUR STUDIES TOO MUCH...
RUSTLE
FLAP
OH, CRAP...
I DON'T HAVE ANY NOTES FROM THE DAYS I TOOK OFF FROM SCHOOL...

THERE'S A BIG BLANK IN MINE FROM THE DAYS I WAS OUT, TOO...
LIKE WHEN I WAS SICK.
OH, RIGHT...
I DON'T TAKE NOTES.
ARE YOU A GENIUS?!
SWIF
スッ
HERE...
THANKS FOR EARLIER.
YOU CAN USE MINE IF YOU WANT.
Math
...
THANKS!
YOU'RE A LIFE-SAVER!

AS SUCH...
...PLEASE HELP US STUDY FOR FINALS.
MMM...
I DON'T KNOW...
A FACULTY MEMBER PERSONALLY TEACHING STUDENTS IS KINDA IFFY.
PLEASE DON'T SAY THAT!
WELL,
I GUESS I'LL MAKE AN EXCEPTION THIS TIME!

I STILL ...
...OWE NATSUO-KUN FOR YESTERDAY, TOO.
...!
OWE?
UH-HUH.
A G POPPED OUT AS I WAS ABOUT TO TAKE A BATH...
G
...AND I RAN CRYING TO NATSUO-KUN IN MY UNDERWEAR.
HMM... UNDERWEAR, HUH?
DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT!
I'M INNOCENT!
ALL RIGHT. WE'LL START AFTER DINNER.
JUST SO WE'RE CLEAR, I WON'T TELL YOU WHAT'LL BE ON THE TEST, OKAY?

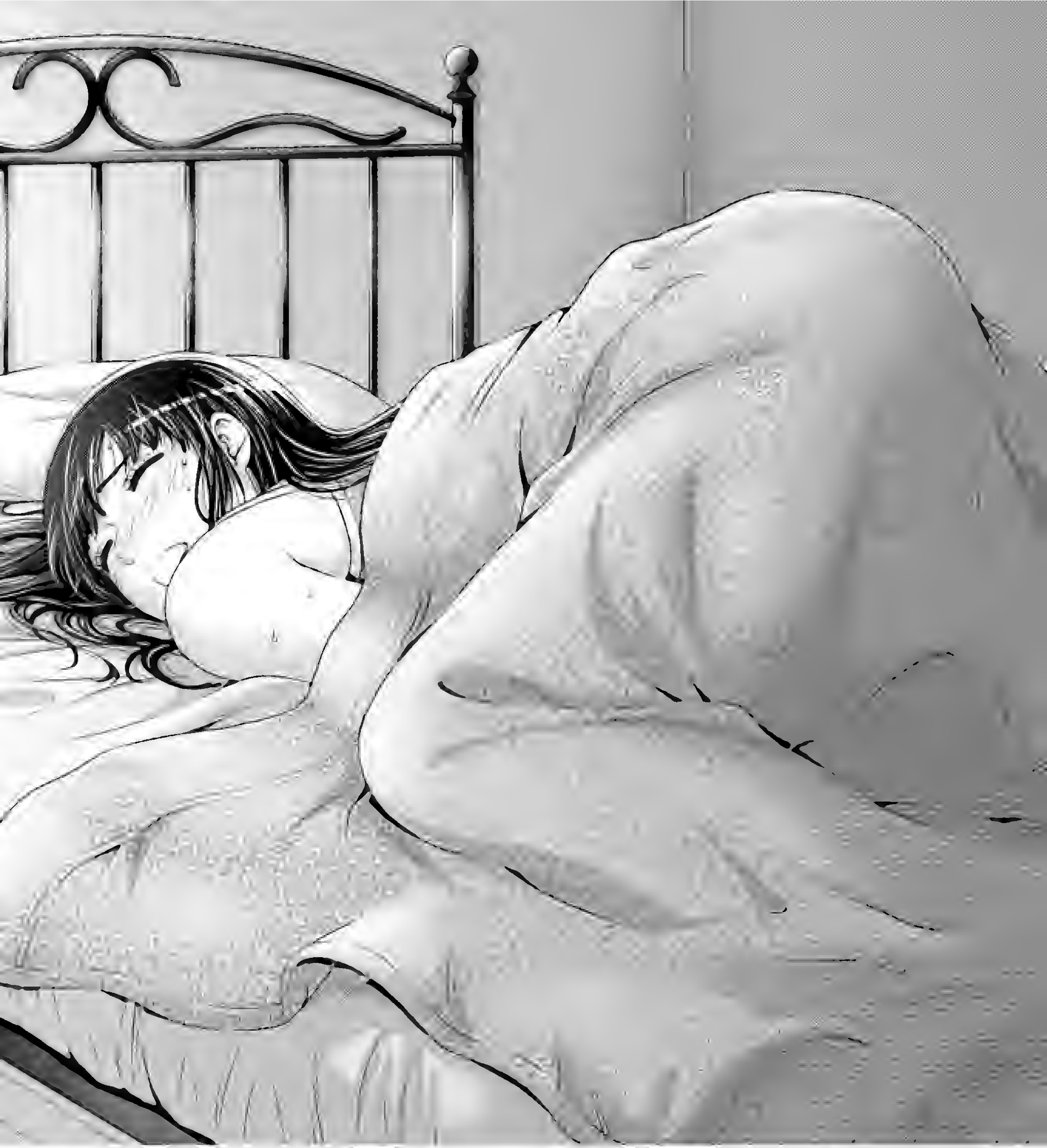
"GOKIBURI" BEING COCKROACH

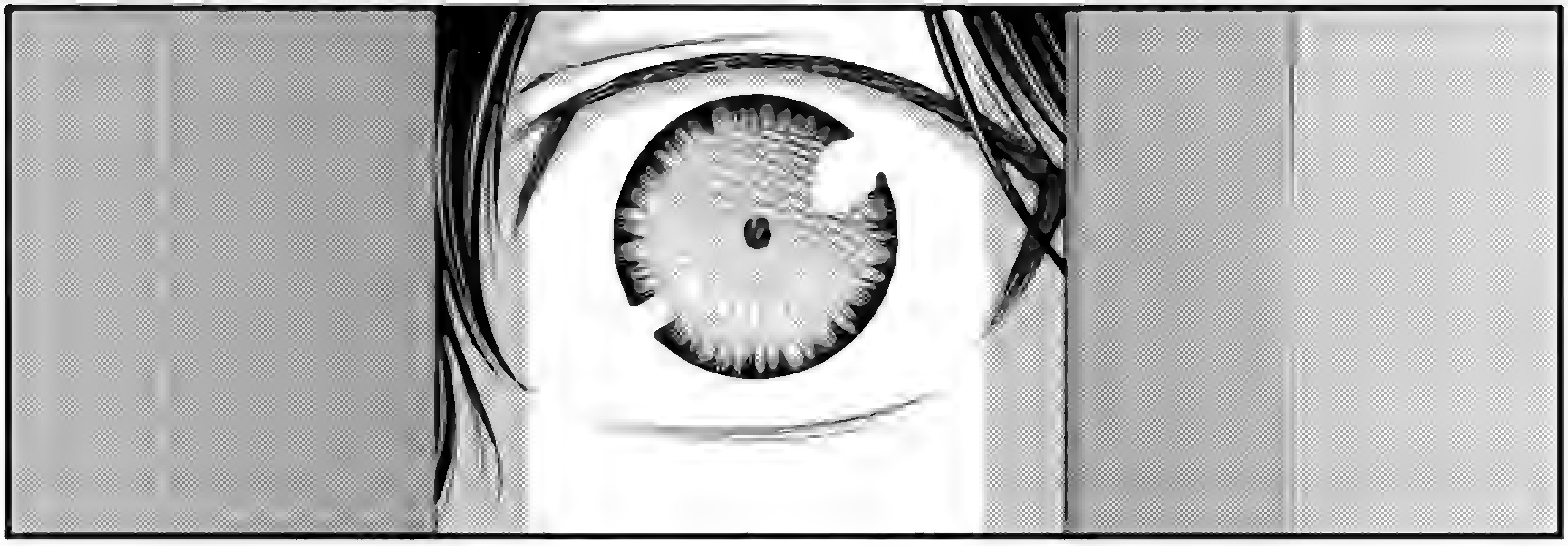
AHH. NO, NO.
SINCE THIS MEANS, "TELL SOMEONE TO DO," WHAT GOES HERE?
UM...
"HER?"
RIGHT!
HMM. YOU HAVE A HARD TIME WITH THIS KIND OF GRAMMAR, HUH, NATSUO-KUN?
YOUR QUIZ SCORE THE OTHER DAY WASN'T GREAT, EITHER.
MAYBE HE'S THINKING ABOUT ASHIHARA-SAN DURING CLASS.
WHA?!
HEY!

WHAT?! YOU MEAN ASHIHARA-SAN IN CLASS 7?
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HER, NATSUO-KUN?
AH!
COULD SHE BE RELATED TO WHY YOU WERE DEPRESSED YESTERDAY?
C-CUT IT OUT, WILL YOU?!
WHAT...? DID SOMETHING REALLY HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU TWO?
DID YOU DO IT?!
NOTHING HAPPENED!
WE DIDN'T!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT! JUST DROP IT!
WE HAVE TO FOCUS ON STUDYING NOW.
WHAAAT? C'MOOON.
BOOO
I WANT TO HEAR FLEETING TALES OF YOUTH.
GIVE IT A REST!
JEEZ...

RUI JUST HAD TO GO AND SAY THAT...
IN FRONT OF SENSEI, NO LESS.
AND SENSEI DIDN'T HAVE TO LATCH ON SO–
HUH? I DON'T GET HOW THE GRAMMAR'S DIFFERENT IN THIS SENTENCE.
I WONDER IF SENSEI IS STILL UP.

HER DOOR'S CRACKED.
HAH
HNN...
HAH
ピ FREEZE
タッ
?
SEN-SEI...?
HAH...
AH...
HAH
HAH...





... SHUU ...
SAN ...
High School English

CHAPTER 24: BUMMER

SEN... SEI...
ゴクッ GULP
...
English
High School

PLAP
High School
English
TWITCH
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High Sch
Engli

High School English

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パタ
TMP
カチャ…
CLACK
ほー…
PHEEEEW…
…
SHUU …
… SAN …

MORNING.
SOMEONE'S UP LATE TODAY.

YOU'D BETTER HURRY AND GET READY.
I WAS UP STUDYING UNTIL MORNING...
UNTIL MORNING? REALLY?
IT'S GREAT TO BE STUDIOUS...
PAT ぽん
...BUT DON'T PUSH YOURSELF, OKAY?
IF YOU'RE TOO EXHAUSTED TO SHOW UP ON TEST DAY...
...THEN ALL YOUR EFFORT WILL HAVE BEEN FOR NOTHING.
THAT'D BE SUCH A BUMMER, RIGHT?

FIRST PERIOD — PHYSICS
SECOND PERIOD — CLASSICAL LITERATURE

Year: 2 Class: 4 #.24
NAME: Natsuo Fujii
SCORE: 91
HUH?! WHAT'S WITH THAT SCORE, NATSUO?!
I THOUGHT YOU SUCKED AT MATH!
I HAVEN'T BEEN SLEEPING MUCH LATELY...
SO I'VE BEEN STUDYING TO FILL THE TIME, AND THIS IS THE RESULT.
THE BAGS UNDER YOUR EYES ARE CRAZY.
I'M HERE TO TALK IF SOMETHING'S BUGGING YOU, MAN.
YOU LOOK LIKE L...
ARCHIVE
GOOD WORK ON FINALS, EVERYONE.
THANKFULLY NO ONE BROUGHT SHAME TO THE LITERATURE CLUB'S NAME WITH THEIR SCORES.
SUMMER BREAK IS SOON UPON US,
BUT DURING THE BREAK, AS THE LITERATURE CLUB...

...I'D LIKE TO PROPOSE A CAMPING TRIP...
...DOUBLING AS A SOCIAL GATHERING.
...
CAMPING...?
BUT NOT A TRAINING CAMP...?
KASHIWABARA-KUN REQUESTED THAT WE MIGHT HAVE SOME SORT OF GET-TOGETHER.
AND I THINK IT WILL PROVIDE AMPLE IMPETUS FOR YOUR WRITING,
SO I TRIED SETTING UP A TWO-NIGHT CAMPING TRIP AT KARUIZAWA.
KARUIZAWA...? DON'T YOU OWN A VACATION HOME THERE, SENSEI?
WHY NOT USE THAT?
YOU'LL ONLY LAZE AROUND IN A COMFY ENVIRONMENT SUCH AS THAT.
I THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO GET YOU INDOOR KIDS OUT AND ABOUT.

SENSEI, COULD IT BE THAT YOU JUST WANT TO GO CAMPING...?
DON'T FORGET TO BRING BUG SPRAY, EVERYONE.
PULL くい
くいっ PULL
OUTDOOR GOODS
スポー
D トラベ
COLORFUL RAINCOAT
DO YOU THINK THIS MIGHT BE HANDY?
I HAVEN'T GONE CAMPING SINCE I WENT WITH A YOUTH GROUP IN GRADE SCHOOL, SO I'M SUPER EXCITED! ♥

む
PINCH
HEEEY.
にっ
WE HAVEN'T HUNG OUT ALONE IN FOREVER.
CAN'T YOU SMILE A LITTLE MORE?
OR IS SOMETHING MAKING YOU ALL GLOOMY AGAIN?
STREEEETCCH
ER,
NO,
I...
IT'S WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE.
...
HEY, MOMO.
HAS THERE EVER BEEN A GUY YOU CAN'T FORGET ABOUT?

YOU MEAN LIKE PAST BOY-FRIENDS?
?
YEAH.
HMM. GUYS I CAN'T FORGET...
HONESTLY, I DON'T THINK I SO.
BUT,
EVEN IF YOU BROKE UP OR THEY DUMPED YOU...
...I KIND OF ENVY HAVING SOMEONE LIKE THAT.
I MEAN, THAT JUST GOES TO SHOW HOW STRONGLY YOU FELT ABOUT THAT PERSON, RIGHT?
...
IF I HAD SOMEONE LIKE THAT, I'D PROBABLY GET HORNY EVERY NIGHT.
Y-YOU GET HORNY?
WELL, YEAH.
DO YOU... Y'KNOW?
UH-HUH.
ALMOST EVERY NIGHT.
HUH?

Clothes
Towel
Toiletries
DO YOU HAVE A SLEEPING BAG?
I DO, BUT...
...DO YOU THINK WE'LL NEED 'EM THIS TIME OF THE YEAR?
HEEEY YOU TWO!
WHAT'CHA TALKING ABOUT?
THE LITERATURE CLUB IS GOING CAMPING TOGETHER.
Clothes
Towel
Toiletries
SENSEI SAID WE COULD INVITE FRIENDS AND FAMILY. DO YOU WANT TO COME, HINA-NEE?
NO MUSIC
OH!
SO I HEARD!
KIRIYA-SENSEI TOLD ME EARLIER TODAY.
HE DID?
YEAH, AS I WAS GETTING READY TO LEAVE.
TACHIBANA-SENSEI!

RUI TACHIBANA FROM CLASS 2 JOINED THE LITERATURE CLUB RECENTLY.
SHE HAPPENS TO BE YOUR SISTER, RIGHT?
OH! YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF RUI.
BUT OF COURSE.
I ACTUALLY PLAN TO TAKE THE CLUB CAMPING DURING THE BREAK.
SEEING AS YOU'RE A RELATIVE OF ONE OF THE MEMBERS, WOULD YOU CARE TO JOIN US, AS WELL? I COULD USE ANOTHER CHAPERONE.
OH, THAT MAKES THINGS QUICK.
YOU SAID YOU'D GO, RIGHT?
NO.
I TOLD HIM I'D TALK TO YOU GUYS FIRST.
WHY?
HUH?
WELL...

...YOU GUYS ARE GOING TO BE HAVING FUN AS A GROUP OF FRIENDS, RIGHT?
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NOT WANT ME TO COME ALONG AS YOUR GUARDIAN OR SOMETHING...
THAT'S NOT...
THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL!
REALLY?!
THAT'S GREAT.
I ACTUALLY REALLY WANTED TO GO!
I THOUGHT IT'D BE SUPER LONELY WATCHING THE HOUSE BY MYSELF, SO I'M REALLY HAPPY! ♫
OH, OH! DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD BRING A HAMMOCK?!
YOU HAVE ONE?

ALRIGHTY! IS THAT EVERYONE?
MAKE SURE YOUR SEATBELTS ARE BUCKLED.
OKAY! OFF WE GOOO!

CHAPTER 25: THE FIRST DAY OF CAMPING!

IT'S HUUUGE!
THE MOUN-TAIN AIR IS SO FRESH.
OH! THEY HAVE A JUNGLE GYM!
GRAB
HOLD IT.
PITCHING THE TENTS COMES FIRST.
BOOO...
YOU CAN PLAY LATER.

I'VE RESERVED THREE TENTS.
THE GROUPS ARE AS FOLLOWS.
THE ASHIHARA SISTERS AND KASHIWABARA-KUN IN ONE,
THE TACHIBANA SISTERS IN ANOTHER...
...AND FUJII-KUN AND ME IN THE LAST.
HUH...?
WHAT ELSE DID YOU EXPECT?
DID YOU PLAN TO SLEEP WITH THE GIRLS?
OH, RIGHT...
DON'T WORRY, I WON'T BE TOO ROUGH WITH YOU.
CAN YOU PLEASE NOT CASUALLY SAY THINGS THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN THE WRONG WAY?
HOW'S IT COMING?
OH, FINE! I SHOULD BE DONE SOON.

SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND ABOUT HINA-NEE?
HUH ?!
IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE STARING AT HER.
ER ...
NO, I...
...
LATELY...
...I'VE BEEN WONDERING IF IT WAS REALLY A GOOD IDEA TO MAKE SENSEI BREAK UP.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I MEAN,
SENSEI LOOKS CHEERFUL...
...BUT I THINK SHE MIGHT ACTUALLY BE FORCING HERSELF.
SHE BROKE UP WITH OUR FEELINGS IN MIND, TOO,
BUT IF SHE'S FEELING LONELY NOW BECAUSE OF IT, THEN I'M NOT SURE WHAT TO DO.
WHEN I THINK ABOUT SENSEI,
I WONDER IF MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE JUST STAYED OUT OF IT, AFTER ALL.
...I DIDN'T THINK HINA-NEE LOOKED HAPPY WHEN SHE WAS HAVING AN AFFAIR.
SHE LOOKED MISERABLE MORE OFTEN THAN NOT.
I COULDN'T BEAR TO SEE HER LIKE THAT.
...
YOU KNOW...

WHEN I THINK ABOUT HINA-NEE,
I THINK IT'S BETTER THIS WAY.
I SEE...
YEAH.
YOU'RE RIGHT.

WHY DON'T WE GET STARTING ON DINNER, SHALL WE?
TA-DAAA! A STAR!
CUUUTE!
I'LL HELP, TOO.
IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?
SORRY, BUT WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO REMAKE ANYTHING. CAN YOU TAKE THE FIREWOOD TO KIRIYA-SENSEI?
WHY DOES INCLUDING ME AUTOMATICALLY EQUAL DISASTER?
I CAN AT LEAST CHOP INGREDIENTS...
ぶーっ
BOOO

WOW!
THERE ARE ROSES GROWING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
HOW PRETTY.
RUSTLE
ガサ
ARE THEY MOUNTAIN ROSES?
RUSTLE
ガサ
OH, I GUESS THEY'D BE WILD ROSES.
THEY'D LOOK SO PRETTY ON THE TABLE.
BZZZ
OW!
SENSEI! WHAT'S WRONG?!
...

A WASP STUNG ME...
A WASP?!
ブゥ
BZZZ
WAS IT THAT ONE?!
DON'T CHASE IT!
TROUBLE?
KIRIYA-SENSEI!
SENSEI GOT STUNG BY A WASP...
IT LOOKED PRETTY BIG.
IT'S FINE. I WAS JUST STARTLED.
I'LL PUT SOME OINTMENT ON IT LATER.
IT'S NOT FINE.
IT COULD BE DANGEROUS DEPENDING ON THE SPECIES.
SHOW ME, PLEASE.

THAT SHOULD HOPEFULLY TAKE CARE OF THE VENOM.
LET'S DISINFECT THE AREA AND KEEP AN EYE ON IT.

S- SORRY.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
WE'LL BE FINE HERE. GO AHEAD AND REST IN THE TENT.
...
THAT WAS KIND OF... EROTIC.
I DOUBT IT WOULD'VE SEEMED LIKE THAT IF I'D DONE IT...

HOW MANY CIGARETTES IS HE SMOKING?
ガサ
SKSH
ガサッ!
SKSH
MMM!

THIS IS MY FIRST TIME DRINKING WHISKEY, BUT IT HAS A LOVELY AROMA.
IS THAT SO? I'M GLAD YOU LIKE IT.
IS THE AREA YOU WERE STUNG ALL RIGHT?
YES. THANKS TO YOU, IT DIDN'T EVEN SWELL.
...
IT'S HARD TO WALK IN ON ADULT TIME...
HAVE YOU GOTTEN USED TO BEING A TEACHER YET?
LAST YEAR, YOU BARELY SEEMED TO KNOW RIGHT FROM LEFT.
YES, SOMEHOW.
...OR SO I'D LIKE TO SAY, BUT I'M STILL REMINDED OF MY OWN INEXPERIENCE A LOT.
THE FACULTY THINKS HIGHLY OF YOUR TEACHING, YOU KNOW.
AND IT SEEMS ENGLISH GRADES HAVE GONE UP AS A WHOLE.
PARTICULARLY THE BOYS'.
MY!
OH,
THAT REMINDS ME.

IS HAGIWARA-KUN DOING WELL?

WE ...
...AREN'T IN TOUCH ANYMORE
...
I SEE.
PARDON ME.
DO YOU ...
...KNOW HAGIWARA-SENSEI?

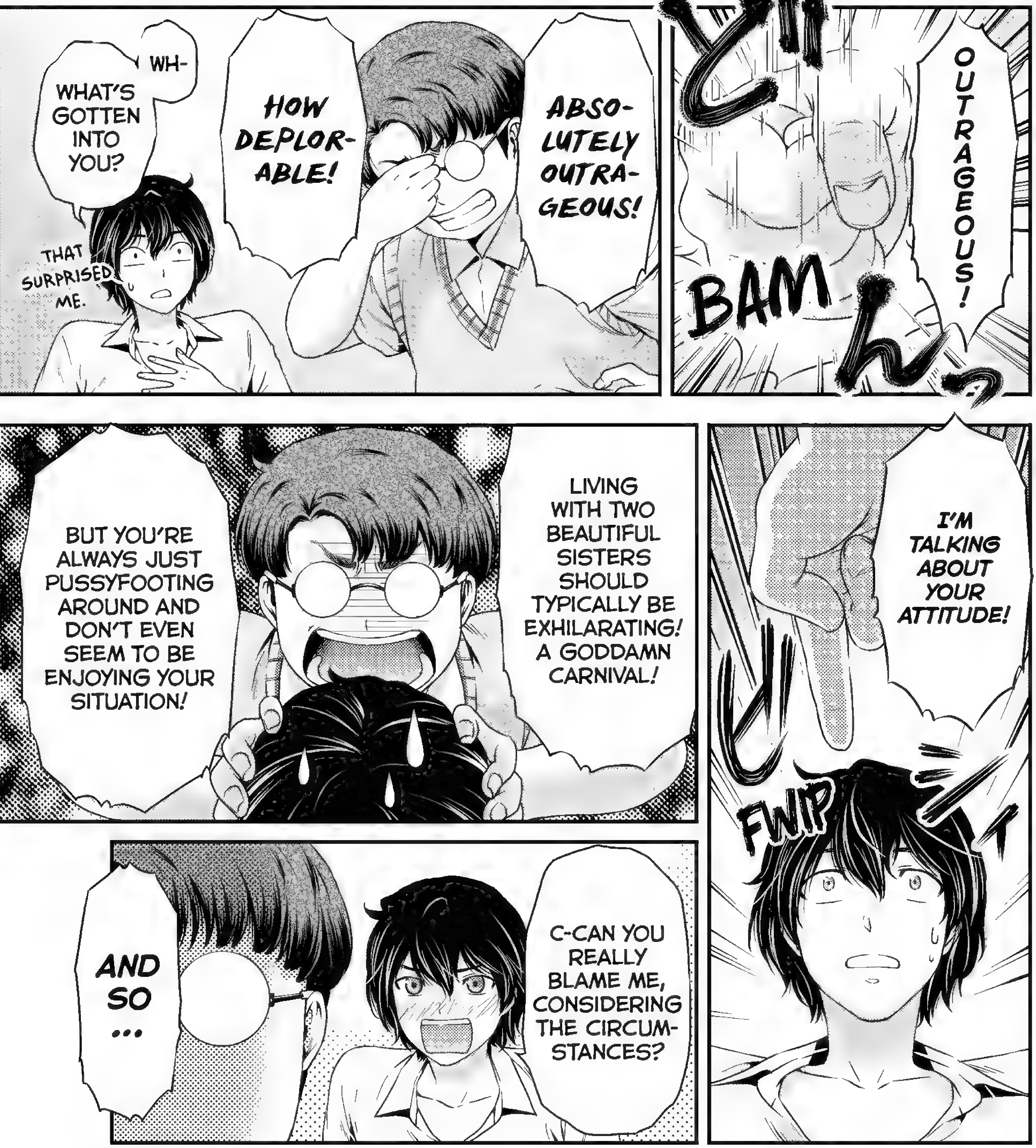
I DO.
HE WAS A YEAR MY JUNIOR IN COLLEGE.
WE MEET AT A CIRCLE IN SCHOOL.
HE'S STILL SOMEONE I STAY IN CONTACT WITH, ALTHOUGH ONLY OCCASIONALLY.
I SEE…
IS THAT SO?
YOU SAID YOU AREN'T IN TOUCH ANYMORE.
IS THERE A REASON FOR THAT?

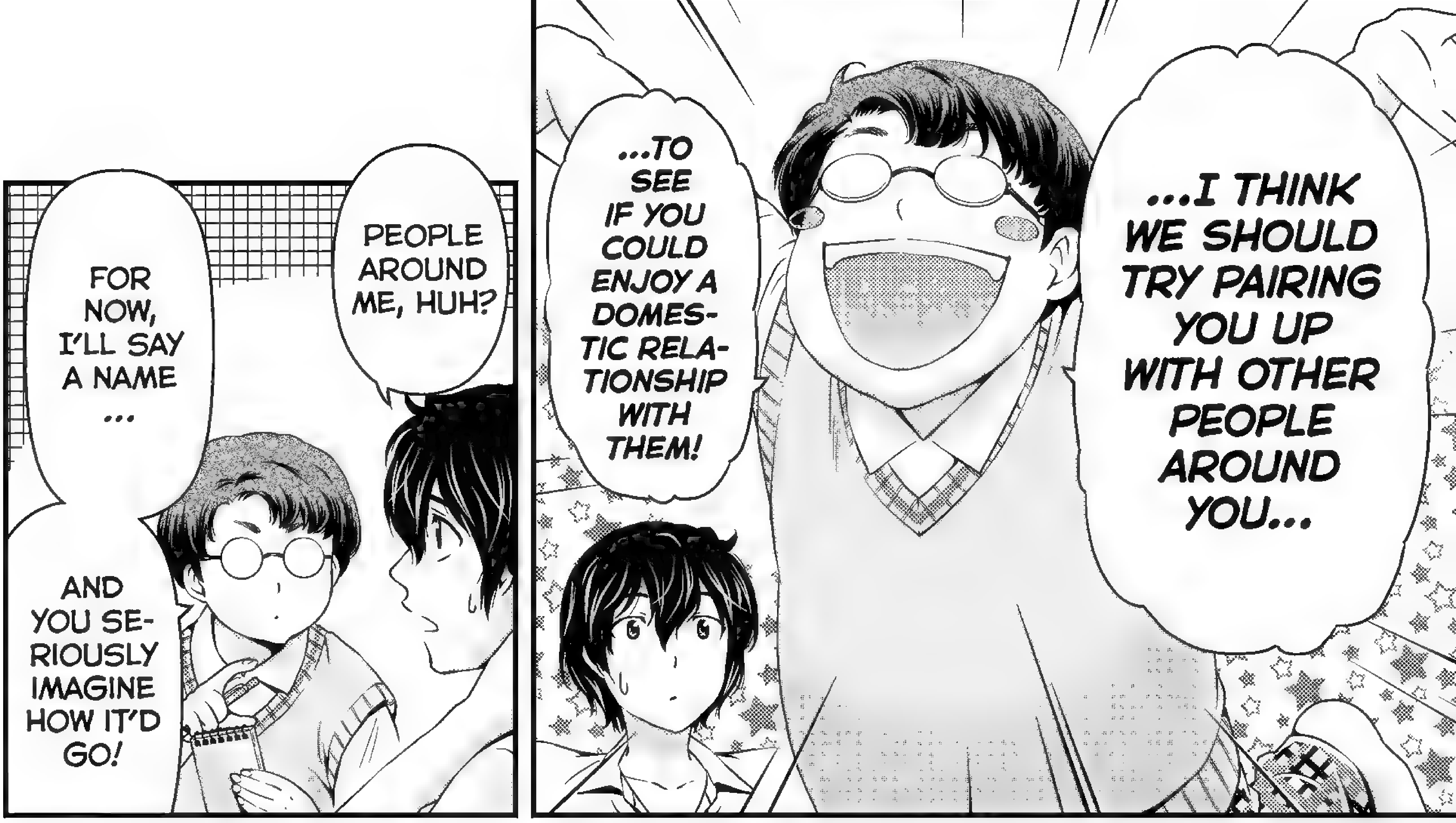
MY FAMILY.
IT...
...SEEMED LIKE I WAS CAUSING THEM A LOT OF GRIEF.
BUT HOW DO YOU...
NO, LET'S JUST DROP IT.
I'M SORRY FOR PRYING.
IT'S JUST THAT HE CALLED ME FOR THE FIRST TIME IN WHILE THE OTHER DAY AND HE SEEMED RATHER EXHAUSTED.
IT HAD ME A LITTLE WORRIED.
WHAT?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

IT SEEMS …
…HIS DIVORCE WILL BE FINALIZED SOON.

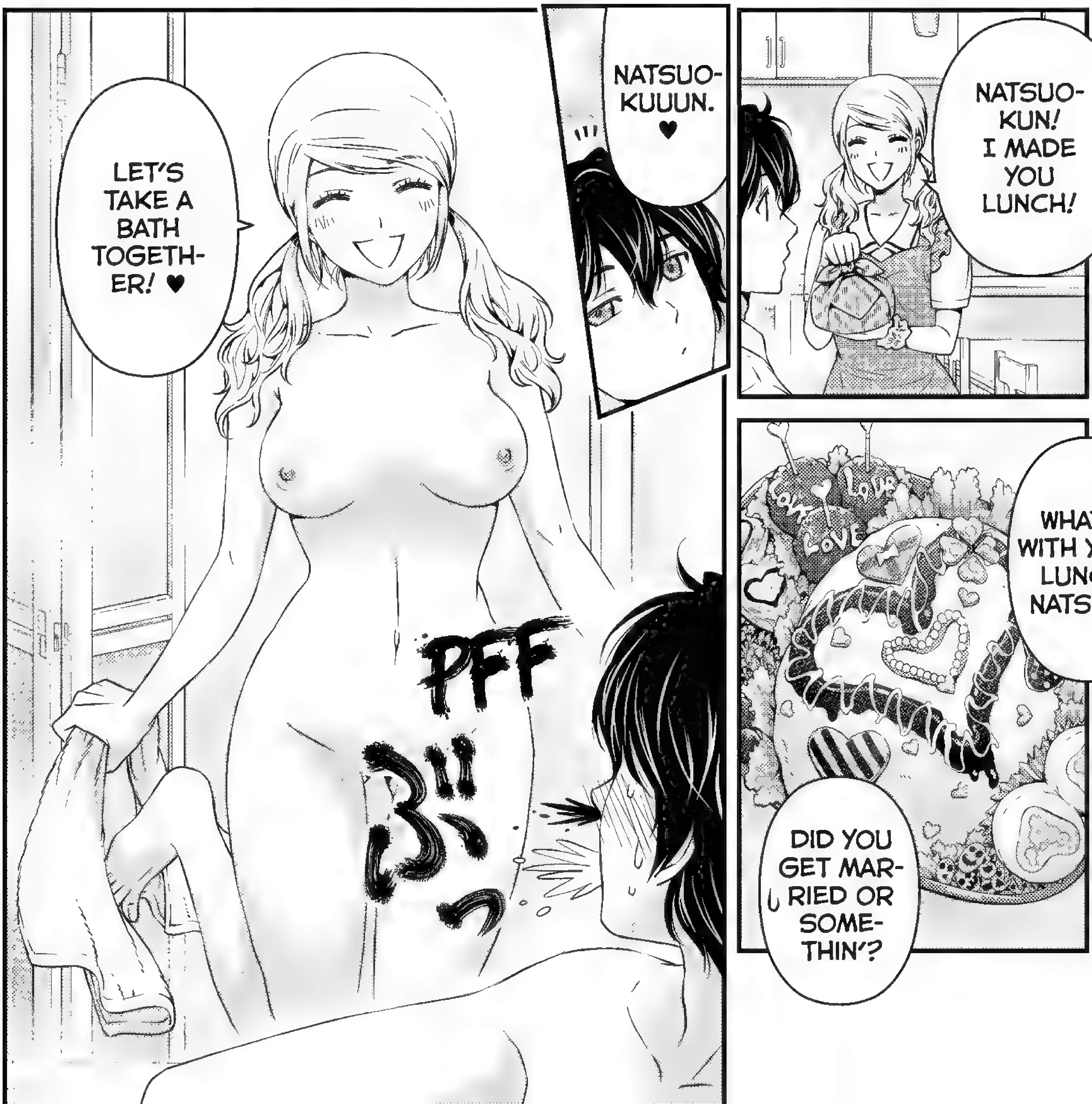
…to be continued.

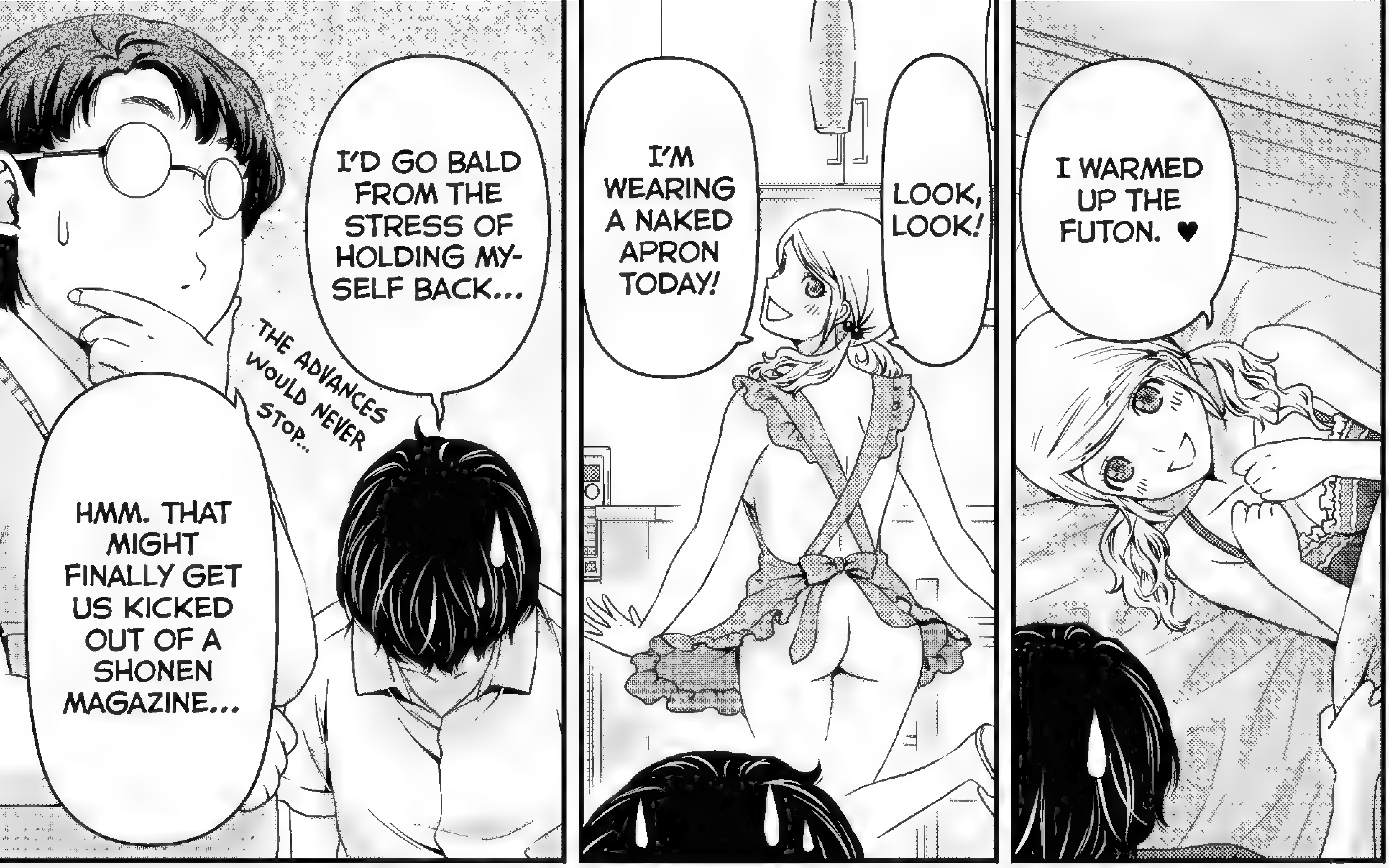
EXTRA MANGA
DOMESTIC PEOPLE


OUTRAGEOUS!
BAM
ABSOLUTELY OUTRAGEOUS!
HOW DEPLORABLE!
WH-
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?
THAT SURPRISED ME.
I'M TALKING ABOUT YOUR ATTITUDE!
FWIP
LIVING WITH TWO BEAUTIFUL SISTERS SHOULD TYPICALLY BE EXHILARATING! A GODDAMN CARNIVAL!
BUT YOU'RE ALWAYS JUST PUSSYFOOTING AROUND AND DON'T EVEN SEEM TO BE ENJOYING YOUR SITUATION!
C-CAN YOU REALLY BLAME ME, CONSIDERING THE CIRCUMSTANCES?
AND SO...

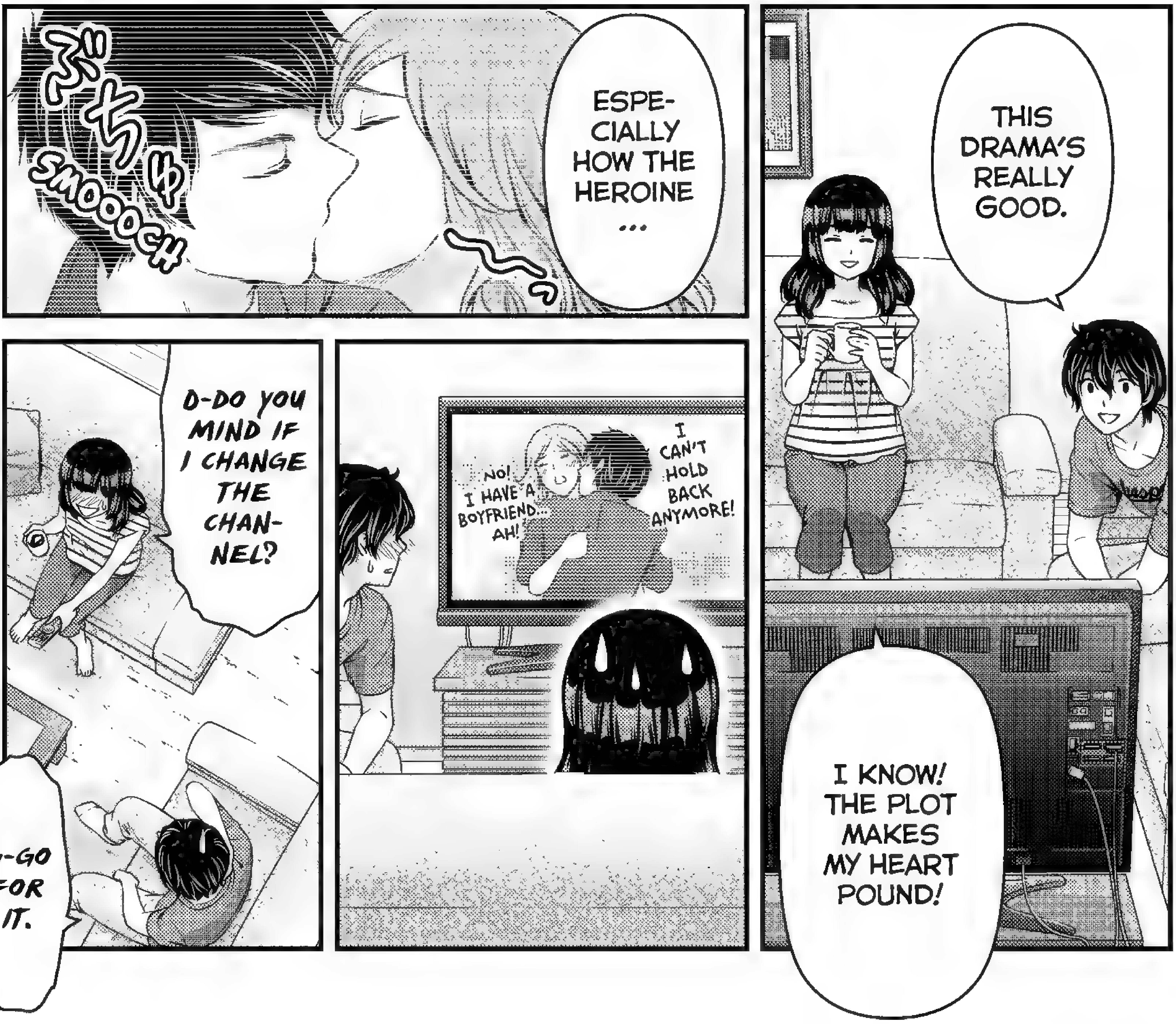

...I THINK WE SHOULD TRY PAIRING YOU UP WITH OTHER PEOPLE AROUND YOU...
...TO SEE IF YOU COULD ENJOY A DOMESTIC RELATIONSHIP WITH THEM!
PEOPLE AROUND ME, HUH?
FOR NOW, I'LL SAY A NAME...
AND YOU SERIOUSLY IMAGINE HOW IT'D GO!

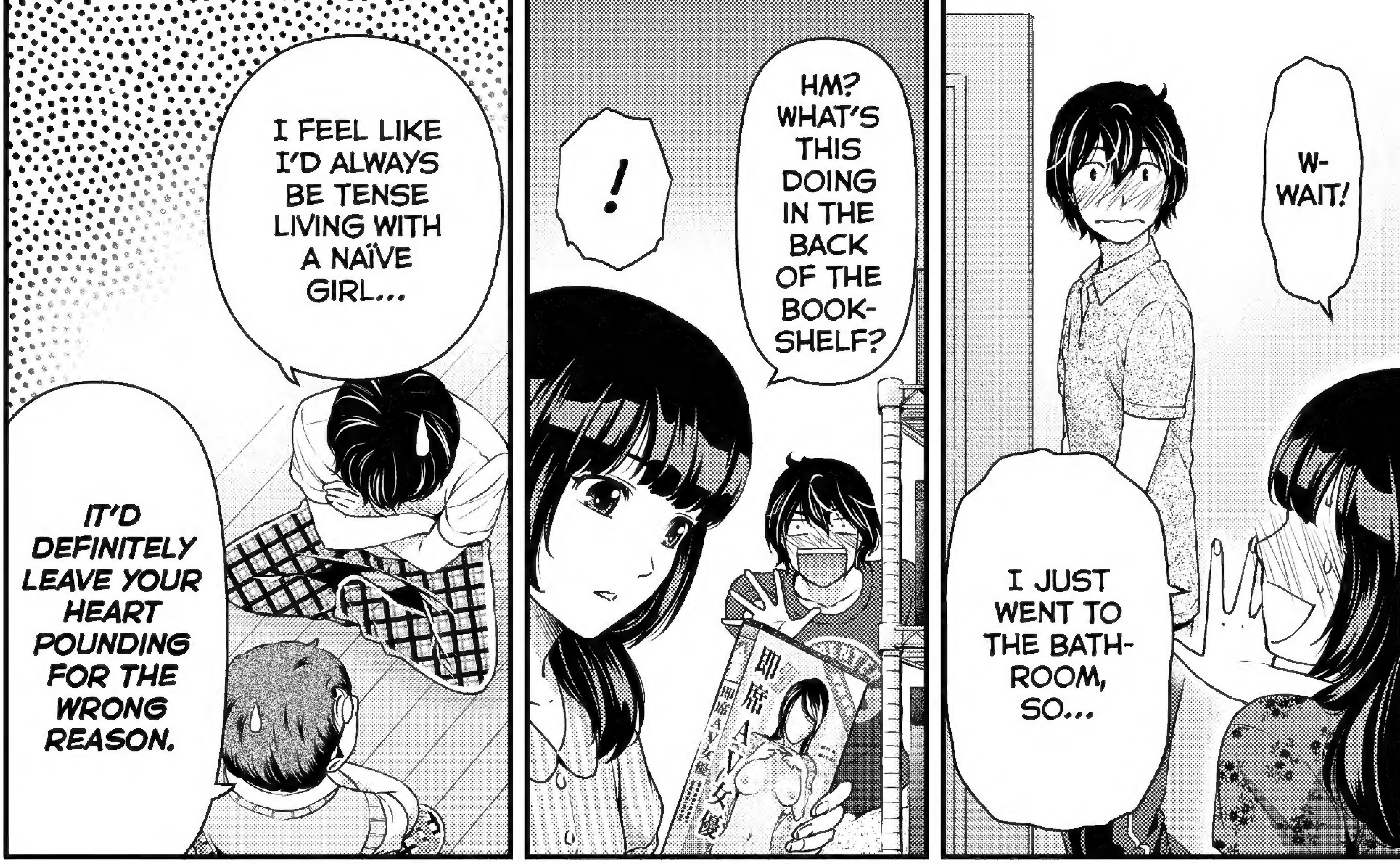
PATTERN 1: LIFE WITH MOMO


NATSUO-KUN! I MADE YOU LUNCH!
LOVE
WHAT'S WITH YOUR LUNCH, NATSUO?
DID YOU GET MARRIED OR SOMETHIN'?
NATSUO-KUUUN. ♥
LET'S TAKE A BATH TOGETHER! ♥
PFF
ぶっ


I WARMED UP THE FUTON. ♥
LOOK, LOOK!
I'M WEARING A NAKED APRON TODAY!
I'D GO BALD FROM THE STRESS OF HOLDING MYSELF BACK...
THE ADVANCES WOULD NEVER STOP..
HMM. THAT MIGHT FINALLY GET US KICKED OUT OF A SHONEN MAGAZINE...

PATTERN 2: LIFE WITH MIU

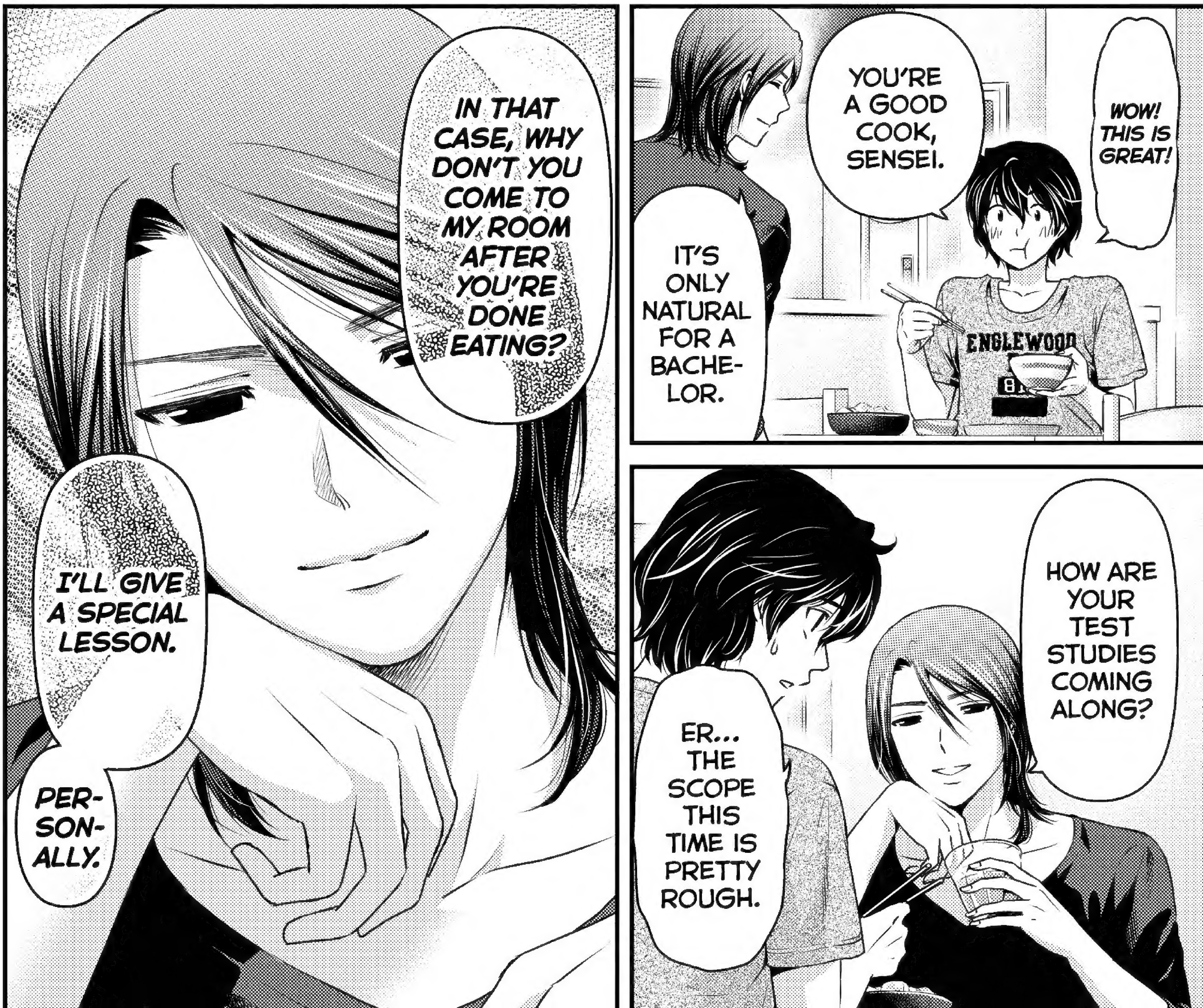

THIS DRAMA'S REALLY GOOD.
I KNOW! THE PLOT MAKES MY HEART POUND!
ESPECIALLY HOW THE HEROINE...
ぶちゅ SMOOOCH
I CAN'T HOLD BACK ANYMORE!
NO! I HAVE A BOYFRIEND... AH!
D-DO YOU MIND IF I CHANGE THE CHANNEL?
G-GO FOR IT.

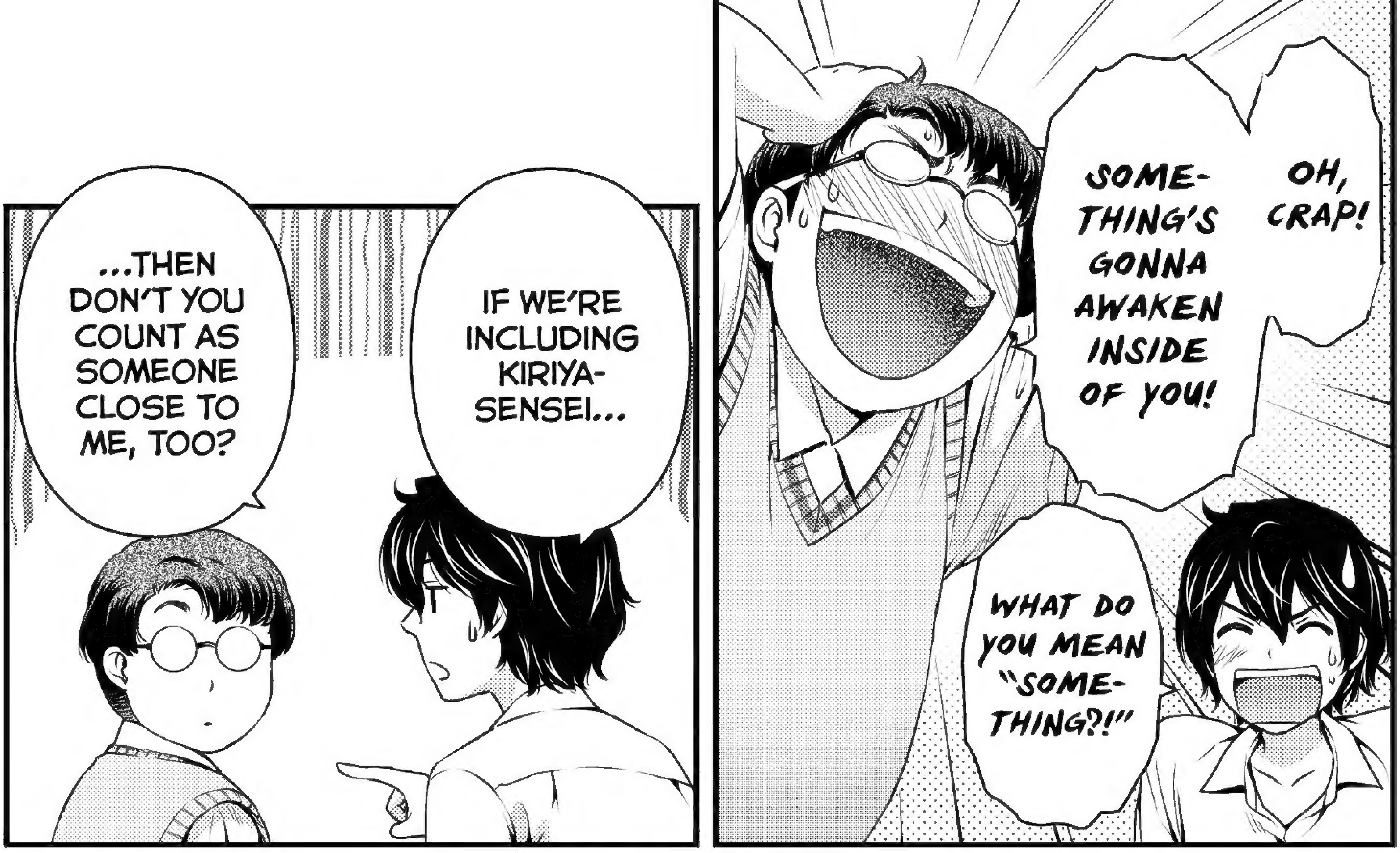

W-WAIT!
I JUST WENT TO THE BATHROOM, SO...
HM? WHAT'S THIS DOING IN THE BACK OF THE BOOKSHELF?
!
即席AV女優
I FEEL LIKE I'D ALWAYS BE TENSE LIVING WITH A NAÏVE GIRL...
IT'D DEFINITELY LEAVE YOUR HEART POUNDING FOR THE WRONG REASON.

DVD: IMPROMPTU PORN STAR

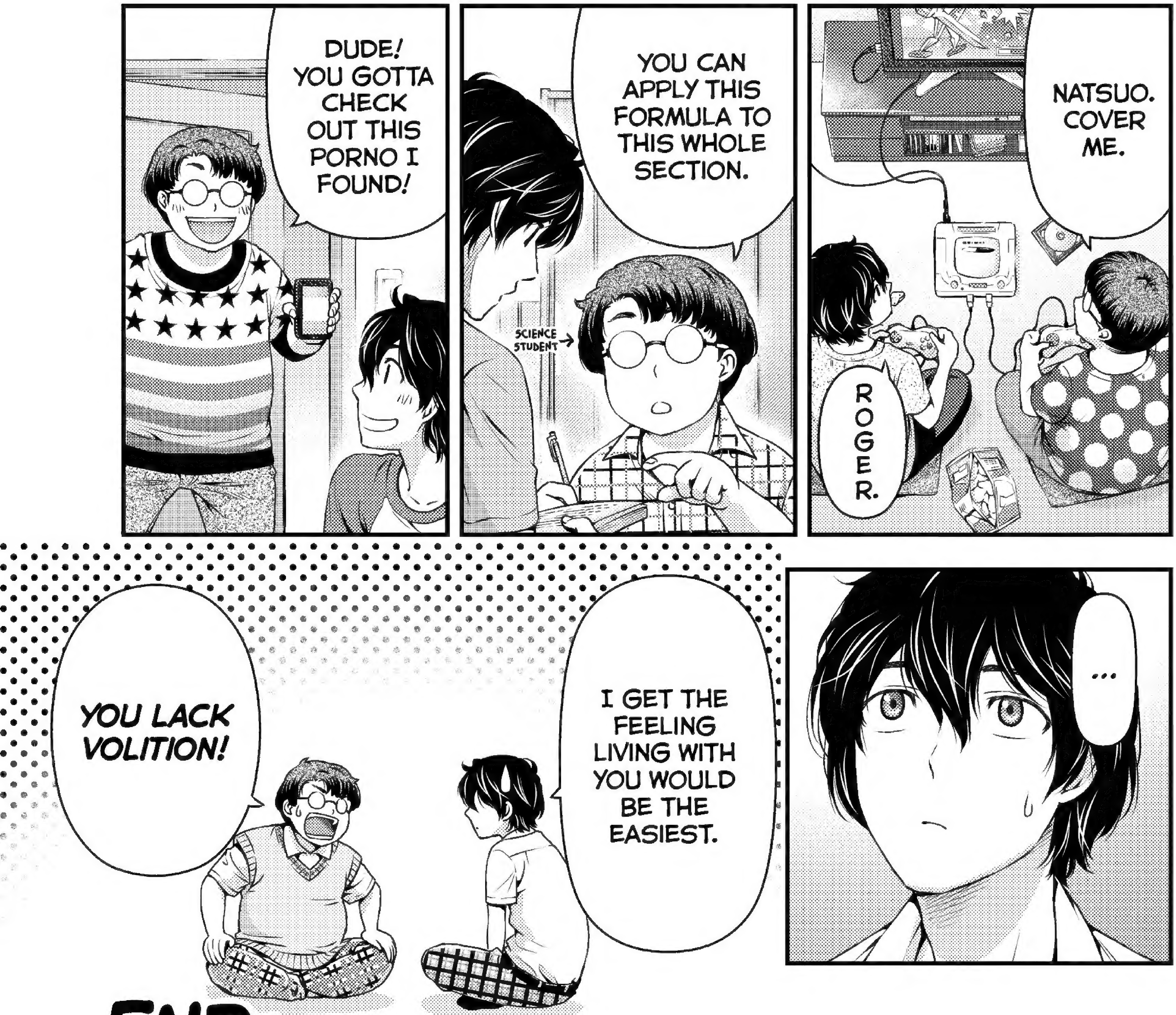
PATTERN 3: LIFE WITH KIRIYA-SENSEI

HUH? GUYS, TOO?!


WOW! THIS IS GREAT!
YOU'RE A GOOD COOK, SENSEI.
IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR A BACHELOR.
HOW ARE YOUR TEST STUDIES COMING ALONG?
ER... THE SCOPE THIS TIME IS PRETTY ROUGH.
IN THAT CASE, WHY DON'T YOU COME TO MY ROOM AFTER YOU'RE DONE EATING?
I'LL GIVE A SPECIAL LESSON.
PERSONALLY.


IF WE'RE INCLUDING KIRIYA-SENSEI...
...THEN DON'T YOU COUNT AS SOMEONE CLOSE TO ME, TOO?
OH, CRAP!
SOME-THING'S GONNA AWAKEN INSIDE OF YOU!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "SOME-THING?!"

PATTERN 4: LIFE WITH FUMIYA


NATSUO. COVER ME.
ROGER.
YOU CAN APPLY THIS FORMULA TO THIS WHOLE SECTION.
SCIENCE STUDENT
DUDE! YOU GOTTA CHECK OUT THIS PORNO I FOUND!
...
I GET THE FEELING LIVING WITH YOU WOULD BE THE EASIEST.
YOU LACK VOLITION!

END

Domestic Girlfriend 3

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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